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8vo. 148 pp. 7 plates and frontispiece, table of contents, preface, and introductory chapter. M., $8\frac{3}{4}$ in. by $5\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Dedicated to the Commanders and Officers of the British Army and all Amateurs of Horses in Great Britain.

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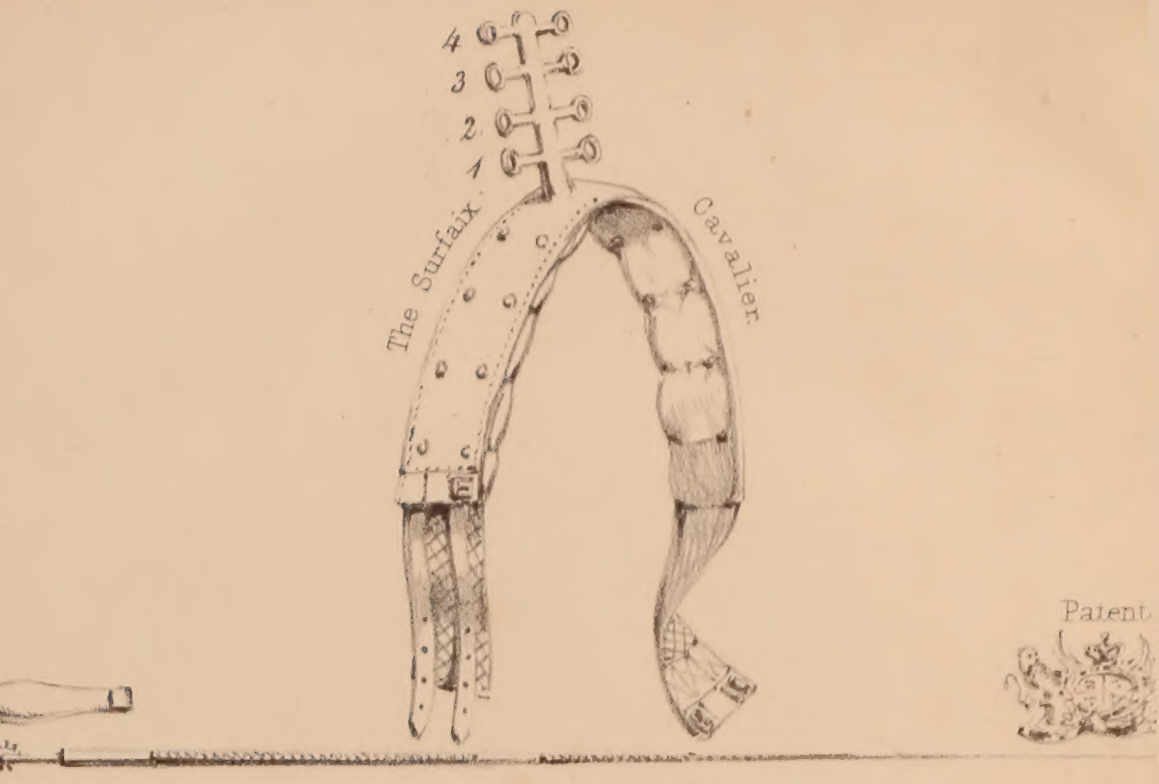


The long Spur Whip.

Horse in course of Breaking.

"SURFAIX CAVALIER;"

A NEW SYSTEM

OF

BREAKING-IN & TRAINING HORSES.

BY

MADAME MARIE ISABELLE.

THE BREAKING-IN AND TRAINING OF

CAVALRY AND RACE-HORSES AND HACKS,

IN TWELVE LESSONS;

THE BREAKING-IN OF

CARRIAGE-HORSES, IN SIX LESSONS.

First Edition.

THE AUTHORESS RESERVES THE RIGHT OF TRANSLATION.

LONDON:

BOSWORTH & HARRISON, 215, REGENT STREET;

Edinburgh: JOHN MENZIES;—Dublin: McGLASHAN & GILL;

AND MAY BE HAD OF ALL BOOKSELLERS.

1856.

LONDON:
Printed by W. J. Golbourn, 6, Princes Street, Leicester Square.

TO THE

COMMANDERS AND OFFICERS OF THE BRITISH ARMY,

AND

ALL AMATEURS OF HORSES IN GREAT BRITAIN,

THIS WORK

IS

MOST RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,

BY

THEIR MOST OBEDIENT SERVANT,

MARIE ISABELLE.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Preface	i
Introductory Chapter	3
Breaking-in of Saddle-Horses in Twelve Lessons	36
Breaking-in of Carriage-Horses in Six Lessons	56
Breaking-in and Training of Race-Horses	67
Breaking-in of Horses that "Over-reach"	76
Breaking-in of Horses that "Stand-over"	78
Breaking-in of Horses that "Rein-back" with difficulty	80

LESSONS REFERRED TO IN THE ABOVE INSTRUCTIONS.

To Saddle and Bridle a Horse, and place the "Surfaix Cavalier"	86
To lift the Fore-legs, to free the Action of the Shoulders	94
To lead a horse to the Riding School	96
Pas d'Équilibre décomposé—forward and backward	97
To bring a Horse to the knowledge of the Whip	101
To bring a Horse to the knowledge of the Long Whip	103
To bring a Horse to the knowledge of the Spur	105
To start by Diagonal Action, and by the Spur	107
The Flag Lesson	108

PAGE

The Drum Lesson and the Pistol Shot 109

The Music Lesson 110

The Sabre Lesson 111

Left About—Right About 112

Pirouette on the Fore-hand 113

Pirouette on the Haunches 114

Movement of the Two Pistes, with the Lunge . . 115

Movement of the Two Pistes, with the Lunge and the Whip 117

Movement of the Two Pistes, with Diagonal Action . 118

Movement of the Two Pistes, the Body bent on the side to which the Horse moves 119

To start at a Walk and at a Trot 120

To produce Noble Carriage 122

To "Rein-back" a Horse 123

To teach the effects of the Reins on starting at a Gallop . 124

To "Rassembler" a Horse 125

The "Jumping" Lesson 127

The "Mounting" Lesson 129

The "Riding" Lesson 132

Useful Information concerning Horses 142

PREFACE.

I MAY inform my readers that this work was written solely to promote the interests of society; and as it is more particularly addressed to military men, owners, amateurs, dealers, and breeders of horses, I have not aimed at brilliant phraseology nor elegance of style. I have also endeavoured to divest it of that multiplicity of technical terms which would render it necessary to hold the book in one hand, and a Dictionary of Equitation in the other; and in order that I may be thoroughly understood by all the classes for whose information this work has been written, I have endeavoured to explain myself in the simplest and clearest possible manner. It will afford me much pleasure to find that I have succeeded.

At the request of a great number of my friends, I have been induced to publish this new mode of breaking-in and training horses, and of

equitation, with every necessary explanation, and plain directions for the use of the "Surfaix Cavalier," for the benefit of all classes; I, therefore, beg my readers to appreciate kindly my intention in translating a work which, I believe, will do good service; but if they should discover some sentences ungrammatically written, or ideas which are not developed, and phrases which do not follow each other according to the strict rules of English composition, I hope they will take into consideration the great difficulty which necessarily exists in translating a work of this especial nature.

INTRODUCTORY CHAPTER.

If this new system of the "Surfaix Cavalier" has been adopted in several armies, and by all persons of intelligence to whom I have shown it, it is because it offers every advantage that can be desired; it breaks in the horse quickly, without fatiguing him in the least, developes his powers, enlarges his action, increases his speed, renders him supple and elegant, gives him a perfect mouth, and makes him docile and confident with men.

In this system the breaking-in of the horse, and the instruction of the man, are so intimately connected, that, whilst training the animal, the man cannot fail to teach himself.

The long and deep study which has hitherto been necessary in order to break-in a horse, is the reason why thoroughly broken horses are so rarely met with, and why the importance of complete breaking-in has not been appreciated so much as it deserves. Good breaking-in increases a horse's elegance of movement, and prevents the

premature destruction of his natural powers—a destruction which is, of course, unprofitable in a commercial point of view; for, unfortunately, we have instances every day of exertions required from poor animals in a most miserable condition, whilst, on the contrary, the man who buys a perfectly broken-in horse—even if paying a higher price—makes a good bargain, for the animal will render him excellent service, do him honour, and if he wants to sell him, will always fetch his price. What can be more repulsive than to see an unbroken horse put into harness, or mounted?

Generally speaking, all unbroken horses either throw their noses up in the air, shake their heads, and constantly endeavour to draw the reins from out of the rider's hand, or carry the head low, and thrust their necks and chests very much forward (like donkeys). The action of their fore-legs is close to the ground, and the weight of the greatest portion of their bodies is cast upon their shoulders; they "over-reach"—that is to say, they strike the heels of the fore-shoes with the toes of the hind-ones, which not only produces a disagreeable noise, but the fore-feet are often wounded by the hind-shoes; they are timid, thereby causing much danger to the rider, and frequently become restive, and oppose all restraint.

In going through this work, my readers cannot fail to be convinced that the system of using the "Surfaix Cavalier" is explained so methodically, that any man of the slightest intelligence will be able, in a very short time, to break-in his horse himself.

The horse is a noble animal, intelligent, naturally good-tempered, and speedily becomes trustful and reliant upon man, when he is well-treated. When a horse becomes vicious, and the fault is transmitted by descent, if we go back to the primary cause of vice, it will be seen that it has arisen, amongst the greatest number of them, from the injustice and brutality of which they have been the victims. A horse will resign himself patiently to misery and suffering, and, with the most generous spirit, will work till he drops down dead; but there are two things against which he invariably revolts—injustice and brutality; therefore, in order to avoid resistance on his part, it is all-important that he should never be required to do more than he can easily accomplish. In order that he may understand what is required from him, much gentleness should be used; care must be taken to pat and caress him whenever he does well. Should he not understand at first, perseverance must be employed till he does, and till

he obeys; but the want of obedience is more frequently caused from the man not knowing how to make himself understood, than from want of good-will in the horse.

The talent and power of making one-self obeyed, consists in knowing how to command well; and the proverb which says, "a good master makes a good servant," is applicable in the fullest sense, to the rider and his horse. To create harmony of feeling and action between the horse and his rider, no acts of injustice should ever be perpetrated by the latter; nor must the horse be permitted, under any circumstances, ever to have his own way.

I have travelled much, in order to study and compare the equitation of different countries, and the various breeds of horses; and my passion for horsemanship and horses has stimulated me, at times, to undertake enterprises of no ordinary difficulty.

During my residence at Vienna, I purchased a mare named "Coquette;" an animal possessing great intelligence, but bad-tempered, as stubborn as a donkey, and accustomed to have her own way in everything. Once, when harnessed, she had thrown her master and his carriage into a ditch together; and when mounted, if the humour

seized her, she would start off at a mad gallop, for she had the bad habit of taking a branch of the bit between her teeth—which were by no means easily re-opened—and run away with her rider according to her own good-will and pleasure. She "stood over" before, and "out" behind—in consequence of the abuse of the "bridoon"—her houghs were in very bad condition, although well-shaped. I undertook, nevertheless, to bring them round, and break her in; which certainly was not an easy task, when her temper and physical defects are taken into consideration. I succeeded, however, in a most extraordinary degree, and, finally, made my "Coquette" as fine and elegant an animal as could be seen.

In truth, she well deserved her name. I have never seen an animal more elegant in her carriage, or more graceful in her movements; the highest noblemen of the Court came to the Riding School of the reigning Prince Louis of Lichtenstein to see "Coquette;" and cavalry officers came every day to admire her. The ladies of the Court came also, and many of them mounted her; and on one occasion, when I rode her on the Prater, she had the honour of attracting the notice of the Emperor Nicholas, who at that time was passing through Vienna.

I have seen thousands of horses, but none

which, when in action, possessed such a magnificent expression; her eyes darted lightning, her nostrils were fully dilated, and as red as blood; whilst the dashing energy and fire that characterised her every motion, inspired the beholders with a feeling of delight not unmixed with fear. Nevertheless, my requirements increased in the same degree as her energy: sometimes I would leave her in the stable for several days together, and give her double rations of oats a-day, that she might become still more lively and enduring; so that after a seven or eight hours' ride, she returned quite fresh, and pranced and gambolled as she again reached her home. Through her, I became convinced that when a horse has been well-suppled, and perfectly broken-in, with all the higher teaching of the riding-school, its paces are as fast as those of any horse that has been broken-in in the open air; and that in a few days after he has been exercised in the open air, and has got into wind, the suppleness of his limbs will enable him to run longer and faster than horses broken-in in the open air; for the breaking-in of the latter is necessarily very imperfect, and consequently almost useless, the stiffness of their limbs causing them to fatigue themselves more quickly, and their action being always uncomfortable to their riders.

No horse that I ever saw, could gallop

quicker to hounds, or last longer with them than "Coquette;" and, in a brush of three miles, she never failed to leave her competitors at least a quarter of that length behind. She knew her superiority so well, and was so proud of it, that she would admit of "no rival near her throne;" and if, whilst walking in company with other horses, her immediate neighbour happened to forget the respect which was undoubtedly her due, and thrust his nose an inch in advance of her, she would recall him to his senses by a smart demonstration with her heels and teeth, which, however, were never called into absolute application; the mere menace was sufficient—so soon as she made the clack of her teeth heard, and had exhibited her foot in the air, her anger was appeased by the vindication of her honour, her leg was replaced upon the ground with the utmost calmness, and she betook herself to champing her bits with two-fold vigour.

Thus I can say, with Frederick the Great, "There never can be good cavalry without an efficient Riding School."

One day the Baron K . . . . came to the Prince's Riding School, and requested me to look at a horse of which he was very fond, on account of his having bred it, and of its good temper; but, said he, "unfortunately for me, I dare not

mount him, for he stumbles at every step, and frequently falls down. I am no longer a young man, and a fall at my age must have very serious results." I asked him to send the horse to me; it was brought accordingly; and when I had cast a glance at it, I told the Baron, if he would place the horse under my treatment for six days, I would return it to him on the seventh as firm on his legs as any horse could possibly be. He looked at me in the greatest astonishment, and when the first moments of surprise had passed away, exclaimed, "Ah! Madame, if you can do that, you will make me the happiest man alive, for this horse has a deep seat in my affection."

The horse was under my tuition only one hour a-day for six successive days; he was five years old, good tempered, and well shaped, but had been spoilt by being ridden too long on the bridoon, and worked without being broken-in, so that he stumbled, crossed his fore-legs at every step, hung upon the hand and over reached.

My word was kept to the very letter; at the end of a week, the horse was firm upon his limbs, as well as pleasant and light in hand, yet I had only made use of the "Pas d'Equilibre," with the action of the "Surfaix Cavalier." The Baron was delighted, but still one misgiving

troubled his repose, he feared his temporary happiness would fade away. I re-assured him, bade him take heart of grace, and patiently await the result. After having ridden the horse for a fortnight, the Baron's fears were dispelled, he was convinced that the horse was perfectly strong upon his legs, and a month afterwards, when he accompanied a party of pleasure to the mountains, no horse, in the cavalcade of fifty, was surer-footed or more dexterous than his own.

Count J . . . . had a very pretty three-year old filly that over-reached, and an exceedingly neat lad who took care of her, yet the understanding between the two was far from being of a satisfactory nature, for the filly indulged in the practical joke of throwing her rider, which playful feat she had accomplished so often, that he had made up his mind to sever so unpleasant a connection at the earliest opportunity. The Count, not knowing what to do under the circumstances, consulted me; the filly was entrusted to my care; she was made to perform the "Pas d'Equilibre," and to submit to the action of the "Surfaix Cavalier," and the result was, that in a few days the greatest harmony and most friendly feeling existed between her and the lad, and, moreover, she did not over-reach.

I had promised the Count that his filly should be ridden at the twelfth lesson, but this took place at the eighth lesson only, for he mounted her himself in the presence of several noblemen, walked, trotted, and galloped her, reined back, and executed some "voltes," the filly performing all that was required from her perfectly well, and with the greatest good temper.

It is right that I should acknowledge that during the time I was at the Riding School of the reigning Prince Louis of Lichtenstein, where these events occurred, His Serene Highness and His princely family treated me with the greatest courtesy.

Before I invented the "Surfaix Cavalier," I had deeply studied all the existing appliances of that nature, and I was soon convinced that they were invented by men who, although men of progress, were nevertheless incompetent to the invention of a proper mode of breaking-in horses.

In order that a horse should be well "placed"—perfectly upright—the head must be perpendicular; and to obtain this position, without either fatiguing or paining the animal, it is indispensable, before "placing" him, to begin with "suppling" to the right and left of the region of the junction of the head with the neck. This

suppling produces the infallible result of lessening the size of the salivary glands, and of facilitating the position of the head near to the neck.

When reins are fixed widely separated the one from the other, the inevitable effect is that they develope the salivary glands, and make the junction of the head with the neck so stiff, that afterwards it becomes almost impossible to "place" the horse either on the "right" or the "left." This manner of fixing the reins is diametrically opposed to what ought to be done under the circumstances.

There is one thing essentially necessary to break-in a horse, and without which it is utterly impossible, it is to keep the hand quite fixed, in order to compel the horse to obey without ever bearing hard upon the rein. If the reins are made of India-rubber, or other elastic material, the action produced is totally contrary to that which is indispensable to the proper breaking-in of a horse; for, in that case, as the India-rubber or other elastic reins yield every time the horse bears on them, he becomes accustomed, when mounted, to drag the reins out of the rider's hand.

It was upon "Coquette" that I first tried the action of the "Surfaix Cavalier," and the success I obtained with it, proved to me the

excellence of the new system. I subsequently applied this action to horses of all ages, and of every description, and discovered its infallibility, inasmuch as it succeeded without one single exception; but as this action was produced by the hand it became very fatiguing, and also could not be produced with absolute certainty, because great tact was necessary. I then invented the "Iron Cavalier." I had well calculated all its desired effects, so as to produce exactly the action of the hand of an accomplished horseman, but with the great superiority arising from its fixed position, and its direct effects upon the salivary glands, the size of which it diminishes considerably. Thus, with me, the "Surfaix Cavalier" solved the problem of breaking-in.

At St. Petersburgh, an officer of the Imperial Guard had a horse which several riding-masters considered it impossible to break-in or ride. The riding-masters of Count C . . . . declared openly that no one could do so, because he had a spinal disease. The horse was offered for sale at £5, but nobody would buy it. The officer asked me what I thought of the horse, and I told him that at the end of twelve lessons by the "Surfaix Cavalier," I felt sure he would obtain a good price for it; and at the expiration

of the time I had named, the horse was well broken-in, did not attempt to resist in the least degree, and the officer sold him immediately for £56.

At the School of the Regiment of Model Cavalry Instruction, near St. Petersburgh, I undertook to break-in all the horses considered impossible to be broken-in. I submitted them to the action of the "Surfaix Cavalier," and I succeeded perfectly with all of them. Afterwards I broke-in three year and four year old troop-horses in thirty-six lessons. I succeeded perfectly, and not one of them, notwithstanding their being so young, fell ill; on the contrary, they became stronger and more healthy, and were brought into fine condition.

This school was commanded by General Lanskoy, at the head of a division; an officer of acknowledged merit, who had received fourteen decorations, all for his bravery in the field; of highly honourable character, and known as the best horseman in the whole army. Everything passed in the most agreeable manner; the General frequently worked with me, and personally superintended my labours from the beginning to the end. All who worked with me, did their utmost to understand my meaning, and succeed with my

system; and several colonels sent deputations of officers to me, begging I would teach my system in their regiments.

I have remarked everywhere, that men who have attained a certain degree of science in equitation and the breaking-in of horses, have precisely the same ideas respecting them. The following appears to be the explanation:—As in all languages characters must be used to represent thoughts, no matter what their shape, or whether they be carved on wood or stone, or printed or written on paper, the effect is invariably the same—without them, thoughts cannot be represented: so it is with the breaking-in of horses—the invariable requirement (express it in whatever language or manner we will) —without which horses never have been broken-in, and never will be—is to "supple" and "rassembler" them.

To such of my contemporaries who assume to have invented "supple"-ing, "rassemble"-ing, and "reining-back," I would say they might as well have declared they invented gunpowder, for, "supple"-ing and "rassemble"-ing, as shown by the History of Greece, were invented two thousand years before they were born.

When man had achieved the mastery of the horse, he first made use of him in his natural

paces; but, in a very short time afterwards, seeing that the horse, in his original condition, could not render all the services expected from him, he was subjected to artificial management, and paces, and, to succeed in them, men began by "supple"-ing and "rassemble"-ing. Then, instead of being carried away by their horses, and fighting in disorder, cavalry were instantly ranged in line, and fought as one man.

Thus, then, there is nothing new in equitation, or in breaking-in; but, as in the case of the electric telegraph, or of steam, wherein men of progress, by much research and study, have found out means of accomplishing in a comparatively short time that which formerly required years to accomplish, as well as entailing labour to an excessive and often troublesome degree, so, therefore, in this matter, there is nothing really new except the means invented to overcome or diminish the difficulties.

To be convinced of the truth of this assertion, one need only consult the engravings of the time of the Duke of Newcastle and M. Solleysell, when it will be seen, that horses were much better "suppled" and "rassembled" then than they now are.

I will not, then, say that I invented "suppleing," "rassembleing," "reining back," and

"equitation;" but I do say I invented a system by which I have broken-in horses which could not be broken-in previously by other methods—that I have placed breaking-in within every body's reach; and that by the "Surfaix Cavalier," quicker and better results are obtained, both as to the horse's elegance, the increase of his natural powers, his speed, and his preservation. The superiority of horses broken by the "Surfaix Cavalier" over horses broken by other means, is a fact testified by all who have had the opportunity of investigating the subject.

Like all other things, equitation, at different epochs, has had its prosperity and decadence; but, at this moment, it is in a fair way of regaining all its pristine glory. Good taste for well-broken-in horses, of noble carriage, is now spreading rapidly amongst all civilised nations—in France, in Belgium, in Holland, Prussia, Poland, Austria, and Russia, the greatest contempt exists for horses that throw their weight upon their shoulders, carry their heads low, and their necks stretched out. In England also, this good taste is beginning to make itself felt.

At the Riding School of Prince Louis of Lichtenstein, I rode a horse of the Chandor breed, which was very well broken-in, but had been driven for three years without ever being mounted;

after a few minutes I made him execute some movements of high equitation, which he performed quite as well as if he had been constantly accustomed to be ridden. In Russia, at one of the receptions with which the late Emperor Nicholas honoured me, a horse broken-in after the Russian manner was brought out, I mounted it in the presence of the Emperor and the Court; on the very instant, I made the animal go through the whole movement of High Equitation. In fact, wherever I have been, where I have ridden broken-in horses, I have found the results invariably the same; which proves, beyond all doubt, that while the means adopted to break-in a horse differ very considerably, the object of the breaking-in itself never differs—namely, to "Supple" and "Rassembler." With respect to equitation, it is exactly the same in every nation; for horses, no matter by what system they have been broken-in, respond to the same action of the legs and reins; it is, therefore, highly erroneous to suppose that equitation and the breaking-in of horses are not every where the same. The difference amongst riding masters is—that some of them are educated, and others ignorant:—It is the same with horses; if a horse is well broken-in, no matter how or where, the result is

exactly the same. If not, the horse has not been broken-in at all. This truism recalls to my mind a passage in the work of the late Captain Nolan, wherein that gallant officer expresses his astonishment that, at a review at Woolwich Common, two foreign officers refused to mount the horses that were led out for their use. He inquired their reasons, on which they replied, "The reason is, that English horses are not broken-in in the same way as ours, and they will run away with us."

Notwithstanding the courtesy which always distinguishes the behaviour of foreign officers in similar circumstances, there could only be one interpretation of the reply, which is, "It is known throughout Europe that the English use their horses, but never thoroughly break them in."

Again, Captain Nolan says, in another part of his work—"How is it that our cavalry are never taught to 'Pirouette,' which is the most important thing—above all others—in a battle?" It is because the advocates of the old system suppose it requires years to teach horses to "Pirouette." A cavalry-fight is like a fencing-match, where the horseman always presents the right side (the side covered by his weapon), and endeavours to gain his adversary's near-side. "How is it,"

says the captain, whilst speaking of equitation, "that so important a branch of military instruction has produced such poor results? The fact is, that we proceed upon bad principles. The riding-masters are not in fault, for they cannot do anything with the vicious system by which they are obliged to teach. At times, a cavalry officer breaks through this system; he acts upon other and better principles, and becomes a first-rate horseman, but unfortunately he cannot extend the means he uses beyond the sphere of his own charger."

Captain Nolan was quite right in his remarks: and I may add, that if that instruction has not progressed, it has not arisen from the want of good-will or of intelligence on the part of the soldiers, but only from the stupid "routine" of men who have retrograded when they should have advanced. The miserable results which they have obtained, speak far more loudly than any comments that could be made upon the subject.*

* I may remark, with regard to the brave, yet melancholy death of Captain Nolan, that it is most unfortunate to an army or a country to lose such men; for those who, like him, devote themselves to onward progress, are, in my mind, so useful to their native land, that, had I an enchanter's wand, I would make them invulnerable to all harm.

The man who feels his own incapacity, is always the determined enemy of all advancement; he endeavours to restrain its onward march, as the only means of safety. Let the light of progress once disclose his ignorance, and then farewell to the false prestige with which he has so carefully surrounded himself by the exercise of skilful cunning: he falls from the high pedestal on which he has so long stood, covered with contempt and shame.

A man who aspires to be a riding-master, must be master of every thing connected with the science, in order to deserve the appellation, so that the blush of shame may never mantle on his cheek at finding that a pupil possesses more knowledge than himself. No person should ever be placed at the head of an establishment for cavalry instruction without his having been previously submitted to the most rigorous examination. Patronage extended to those who have not been so tested, becomes a crime, for the life of every soldier depends entirely upon the nature of the instruction he has received.

I ask, how can it ever have entered into a man's head to make men, whose trade is arms, ride for so many years with one bridoon rein in each hand? By this method, the men have been accustomed to govern their horses by an action diametrically opposed to that employed when the

reins are held in one hand only; in the first case the horse is governed by the "inner," and in the latter by the "outer" reins; so that when a man taught after this fashion finds himself in the field, where he is obliged to rule his horse with one hand, because his weapon being in the other it is impossible, from want of practice, that he can possess either the necessary skill in manœuvering his horse, or in the wielding of his weapon. On the contrary, about a month after the recruits are mounted, they should be taught to hold the reins in one hand, and be exercised in the management of their weapons with the other; whereby they quickly become confident in themselves, and acquire great skill and steadiness, as well as a firm seat in the saddle. "Above all," as Captain Nolan says, "they must be taught to make their horses describe pirouettes, which is the most useful of all manœuvres in the field;" because a horseman who executes this movement perfectly, can easily defend himself against the attacks of many adversaries. As to those riding-masters who assert that it takes many years to teach a horse to make pirouettes, I have recently given them proof that instead of several years a few lessons will suffice.

Whenever men at the head of Cavalry

instruction, have entertained the idea of forming riders and breaking-in horses in the open air, it is only necessary to consult the modes of military equitation at different periods of history, when it will be seen that the same ideas have always been entertained and promulgated by men who possessed neither reasoning powers, principles, or true theory. It was simply the only means they possessed to conceal their perfect ignorance; for the so-called instruction of which they speak, is perfectly useless; the horse should be broken-in, and the horseman taught in the riding-school, and subsequently they should carry their instruction into practice in the air; therefore, exercise and instruction must never be confounded with each other. Exercise requires previous instruction; exercise without it is wholly hurtful, false, and dangerous.

Entertaining, as I do, the desire to make myself thoroughly understood, I may explain that my meaning, when I speak of sending horses to the riding-school, is that they should be instructed there, as children are at school, during the necessary time only, and that afterwards the school should be left, and the horses exercised and manœuvred in the air. The same principle should apply to the men.

Whilst speaking of riding-schools, I must make a few remarks respecting that of the Cavalry Depôt, at Maidstone, my stay at which establishment afforded me the greatest satisfaction and enjoyment. I never worked with greater courage and more pleasure; and although I was there during the rigorous winter season, I often worked for six or seven successive hours, without taking one minute's rest, and felt neither cold nor fatigue. The men who worked with me were all devoted to onward progress, and science. With such men as these, all that is possible in equitation can be accomplished in a short space of time.

Amongst my pupils were Serjeant-Majors who had ridden for four-and-twenty years, and every one succeeded with my system, as if they had practised it during all their lives: this is the best proof I can give, that there was not the slightest trace of "routine" amongst them: nevertheless, it was not to their being accustomed to the work that their success must be attributed, for the principles on which I made them proceed were quite different to those bad ones which had been taught them until that time; it is, therefore, to the excellence of the system, and their desire to learn, that their success is owing. They often told me, that up to my arrival at Maidstone they had

learned nothing else than "single ride," or "double ride" with the bridoon, whilst with me, they broke-in horses for the "High School," and executed all the most difficult exercises in military equitation known to European cavalry, including successive pirouettes at a gallop, accompanied with the quickest possible sabre exercise. The men and the horses executed these feats as by enchantment; and as the serjeant-majors who worked with me were riding-masters, or destined to become so, I wished to accustom them quickly to the most delicate and true action of the hands and legs; and I therefore, after the lesson was over, made them execute an equestrian quadrille, in order to judge of the progress they had made. I can state, without fear of contradiction, that there has never been in Europe so well-executed a quadrille as that performed by my pupil-serjeants; men and horses went through every movement with as much precision as elegance; and so great was my confidence in my pupils, and the horses they had broken-in under my supervision, that at every charge at a full gallop I stood in front, and never gave the word "halt," until the horses had arrived within half-a-yard of me; and in no instance had I occasion to retreat one step. The men also "reined back" the length of the School

as wholly together as if they were but one man; and the horses were so well-behaved, that at the termination of the breaking-in they "backed" without the aid of the reins. In every movement at a gallop, and in all the halts, the horses started and were pulled-up equally simultaneously—all their legs being in a perfectly vertical line. One of the serjeants who had only received three lessons from me, showed me that he had succeeded perfectly in what I had taught him.*

I have now only one word to say to all those who have worked with me:—Take courage, and persevere, for you are indubitably on the right road; recollect that when I shall be far off, I shall always be as happy to hear of your fresh successes as if I were near you; and be you convinced that, for the future, "Routine" is nothing more than an old and ruined edifice, about to disappear for ever. All intelligent men devote their energies to progress; a good taste for the advancement of science is spreading rapidly throughout the army; and but one cry is heard, "Down with Routine and false principles! Down with the stupid abuse of the bridoon!"

* I may remark, that of all the cavalry horses I have ever seen, those of the British are the worst bitted. The bits are thoroughly bad.

You have been made to jump ditches scarcely two feet in width, unworthy of the most timid hunter; but I foretel that in a short time hence ditches six feet wide, and artificial hedges will be made, as is the custom in every Cavalry School; and then, like to the system of the "Surfaix-Cavalier," you will overcome every obstacle.

To furnish my readers with an idea of the amount of instruction the cavalry received before my arrival at the depôt, I will relate a fact.

When I began to "rassembler" the horses, an official sounded the tocsin of alarm throughout the establishment, and sent a captain as a deputation to me, to inquire what I intended to do with them. I told this officer to state that they were in no danger, but that I was simply about to break them in, and peace was accordingly restored. This, however, was the first time in my life I met a person in a Cavalry Riding School who did not know what it was to "rassembler" a horse.

The following is a copy of an official certificate, which states the good results which Riding Master D . . . . obtained in twenty-six lessons, by using my system:—"He has broken-in an old, very stiff horse, which the recruits had ridden for a length of time. At the end of

twenty-six lessons the horse became very supple, and can now execute all the military movements with the utmost precision: will charge at a trot or a gallop, halt promptly, with the lightest touch of the hand, rein back to perfection, and do the figure of eight at a gallop, besides performing the pirouette whilst the rider goes through the sword exercise; and doing likewise the passage, quadrilles, the waltz, and piaffe."

At Paris I broke-in five-year old troop horses, belonging to the Guides of the Guard, in eighteen lessons; and may quote the following extract from one of the official reports which were made upon my system:—"Colonel:—During the whole course of these experiments, I have been convinced that results have been obtained without fatiguing the horses, and without having recourse to the slightest violence I think, also, that their breaking-in has tended to develop the intelligence of the riders; and it can be positively affirmed, that, when these horses are compared with others, they show great superiority in action, in suppleness, in speed in all their paces, in boldness, and in elegance. The conclusion I draw, is, that this system is worthy of the most serious attention, and should be adopted by those who are at the head of the cavalry. Signed—

Guéprattes, Major of Guides of the Guard, Paris, July 8th, 1854." At this time the above-named officer had the charge of breaking-in all the horses of that distinguished regiment.

Another testimonial is :—" I hereby certify that I entrusted two five-year old mares to Madame Isabelle, for the purpose of being broken-in. They were very timid; after twenty lessons they were perfectly broken in; and what is more remarkable, they had acquired an enormous increase of speed, were very light in hand, and elegant in all their paces. Paris, April 20th, 1855. Signed—Paul de Franconière, Lieutenant-Colonel on the Staff."

This gentleman is Chief Secretary to the Minister at War.

I may also cite an extract from another official letter :—" Madame :—Being aware of your intention to return to France, I hold it to be my duty to express to you, before you leave, my lively gratitude for the labours you have undertaken in the Riding School of the Model Cavalry Regiment of Instruction. Being at the head of this school, which I founded twenty-four years ago, I have always sought out every system in equitation which could improve, simplify, and smooth down the difficulties attendant upon this work. Having

practised your system throughout its progressive results, I cannot but thank you most sincerely for having taught us that, by apparently simple means, the horse attains a perfect mouth, and a just bearing on the hand—things frequently very difficult to be found. Your labours have been attended with the greatest success; His Majesty has graciously expressed his satisfaction at them, and now, that we are about to separate, I beg you, Madame, to receive once more the expression of my gratitude. Signed—Paul Lanskoy, General Inspector of the Model Cavalry School, St. Petersburgh, February 3rd, 1854."

The manner in which General Lanskoy appreciated my system, proves that he is a man of scientific attainments; he has explained the results of breaking-in in two words. In order that a horse may have a "perfect mouth," he must be well-balanced, and be extremely supple; the just bearing on the hand is the most useful attribute a war-horse can possess, for it proves his submission, and the confidence he has in his rider, and especially that there is not the least contraction of the jaws. With this admirable qualification a horse is always steady at his leaps, and will take them freely, without danger to his rider or himself; on the other hand, nothing can

absolutely without knowing any thing of the nature or amount of their instruction, or even being able to speak their language, unless my method had been infallible; and the breaking-in of the horse under that system had been considered and calculated, as it were, mathematically as well as mechanically.

Unfortunately, it is not with equitation as with other professions, where success depends entirely on one's-self. An ill-intentioned and unprincipled schemer may succeed in blinding the public to the merits of a system, by such tricks as using the spur, to render the horse restive, or jerking the bridle, to cause him to run away; success, therefore, it is manifest, is altogether subordinate to the good faith of the riders. But although when at the mercy of a man without honor or probity, the system may be arrested for a moment in its progress, this is all that can operate against it; for the instant it meets with fair treatment at the hands of men of integrity, it progresses with greater rapidity than before, and refutes every objection, by producing new proofs of its efficiency; and so long as there is an honest man on the earth, the system of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must succeed.

BREAKING-IN A SADDLE HORSE IN TWELVE LESSONS.

MODE OF REINING-UP THE HORSE TO THE "SURFAIX CAVALIER."

NEAR SIDE. LESSONS.	Bit Rein.	Snaffle Rein.	OFF SIDE. LESSONS.	Bit Rein.	Snaffle Rein.
First	1	1	First	1	1
Second .	2	4	Second .	2	4
	6	6		6	6
Third . .	7	7	Third . .	7	7
	4	4		10	10
	8	8		8	8
Fourth .	8	8	Fourth .	8	8
	5	5		10	10
	9	9		9	9
Fifth . . .	10	10	Fifth . . .	10	10
	6	6		11	11
	12	12		12	12
Sixth . .	12	12	Sixth . .	12	12
	8	8		13	13
	13	13		13	13
Seventh .	15	15	Seventh .	15	15
	10	10		15	15
	15	15		15	15
Eighth .	16	16	Eighth .	16	16
	11	11		16	16
	18	18		18	18
Ninth . .	18	18	Ninth . .	18	18
	12	12		18	18
	1	1		1	1
Tenth . .	20	20	Tenth . .	20	20
	14	14		20	20
	6	6		6	6
Eleventh	22	22	Eleventh	22	22
	16	16		22	22
	10	10		10	10
Twelfth .	24	24	Twelfth .	24	24
	18	18		24	24
	15	15		15	15

☞ For Horses that carry their noses high, the bit reins must be passed through the two first holes of the Iron Cavalier, afterwards through the buckles at the side of the roller, and then fixed rather loose in their usual place, to the buckles on the reins.

☞ It is indispensable that the Preface and Introductory Chapter should be read previously to going through the following details of the New System.

MODE OF BREAKING-IN A SADDLE HORSE

In Twelve Lessons,

WHETHER MOUNTED OR NOT.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

In order to attain the above rapid result, it is necessary that the horse should not be less than five years old. If the horse is mounted at the beginning of the breaking-in, it should be for a quarter of an hour only, and afterwards for half an hour, until the end of the breaking-in in twelve lessons. If the horse is to be broken-in without being mounted, the man will repeat all the work in the same manner as with the "Surfaix Cavalier," during four successive days. Before breaking-in a horse in this manner, he should be mounted with a bridoon, and in a blanket, for two hours once a-day, for a fortnight, and walked in the

streets, and on the highways; but if he is timid, he ought not to be mounted, but be led by the side of an old steady horse.

If the horse is four years old, and has not yet been mounted, he must have six lessons with the "Surfaix Cavalier" before he is walked, with the bridoon and in the blanket. At the first lesson, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the first holes, and the horse must perform the "Pas d'équilibre décomposé," forwards and backwards, for two lessons. At the second lesson the four reins must be fixed in the third holes; at the third lesson, the four reins are fixed in the fifth holes; the horse must be walked and trotted on a straight line, during the four last lessons; at the fourth lesson, the four reins must be fixed in the seventh holes; at the fifth lesson, in the tenth holes; and at the sixth lesson, in the fourteenth holes. This work should last three-quarters of an hour at each lesson; afterwards for six lessons the horse must be mounted, and the directions given in Lesson No. 26, page 129, must be followed.

After each mounted lesson, the horse, unmounted, must be led, at a walk, by the side of an old horse for two hours. Afterwards he must be ridden with a bridoon, and in a blanket, twice

a-day, for an hour each time, for eighteen days, before the breaking-in by the "Surfaix Cavalier." If the horse becomes confident, and at his ease, he may be ridden alone; but if he continues timid, he must still be ridden by the side of an old horse.

During the first six lessons, each lesson must be repeated for three days successively; and during the last six lessons, each lesson must be repeated for two successive days only, making thirty lessons in all. During the whole of this breaking, the horse should be walked for one hour in the morning before the lesson, the horse being in a blanket, and bitted with a bridoon. He should be mounted or led, according to circumstances.

As a horse of four years old has not yet reached his full strength, the breaking must be slow, that he may not be fatigued. During the six first lessons, the man mounted will walk him for a quarter of an hour at each lesson; and for the other six lessons, he will walk him and trot him alternately, for a quarter of an hour. During four lessons, he must be walked for ten minutes, and trotted slowly for ten minutes, taking care to halt frequently. After this time, the horse must be alternately walked, trotted, and galloped,

for half an hour, until the end of the breaking. In all the work, and the movements of the Two Pistes, the mounted man must never begin to execute them, until he has become assured that the horse can perform them easily with the "Surfaix Cavalier."

Inasmuch as breaking-in always excites a horse in an extraordinary degree, when he has been partially broken, he should be ridden several days without any lessons being given, and they should not be repeated until he has recovered his calmness.

First Lesson.

If it is not possible to have a riding-school; a court-yard, a corner of a garden, or even the highway will suffice, for want of a better substitute.

To saddle, to place the "Surfaix Cavalier," and bridle the horse, see Lesson No. 1, page 86.

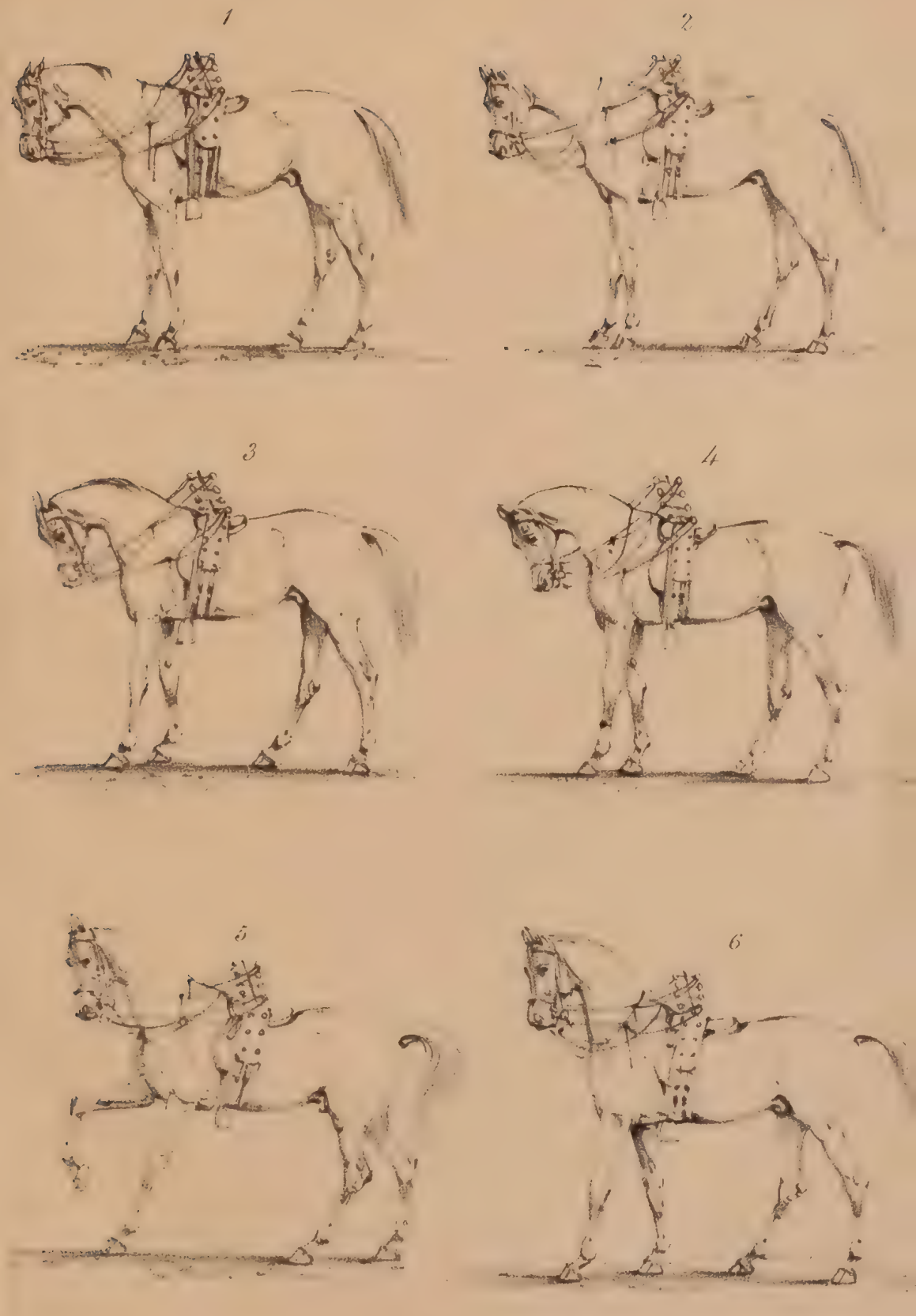
At the first lesson the horse must be reined up to the "Surfaix Cavalier." The four reins must be fixed in the first holes.

To bring a horse to the knowledge of the whip, see the Whip Lesson, No. 5, page 101.

The horse must perform the "Pas d'équilibre décomposé," forward and backward, during half an hour. (See Lesson No. 4, page 97.) He must perform the pirouette on the shoulders. (See Lesson No. 14, page 113.) He must be walked quietly for a quarter of an hour before the end of the lesson, the lunge being held very loosely.

All the lessons should be an hour and a half long, during the whole of the breaking-in.

During all the breaking-in by the "Surfaix Cavalier," the greatest attention must be paid to prevent the horse slackening his pace, or stopping of his own accord. In either case he must be instantly urged forward by a slight but



Sketches taken during the progress of Breaking in a Horse in 12 Lessons;

by Madame Isabelle's invention of the patent "Surfaix Cavalier."

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sharp touch of the whip behind the girths; because if you allow a horse to have a will of his own during the breaking-in by the "Surfaix Cavalier," he will be certain to take advantage of it when he is mounted. If, on the contrary, he is habituated to passive obedience from the beginning, he will not be likely to evince any opposition when mounted.

The object of the pirouette on the shoulders being to give freedom of action to the haunches, care must be taken to give two lessons in it before performing the movements of the Two Pistes. If, at the end of two lessons, the horse acts freely with his haunches, the lesson may be discontinued; if the contrary be the case, the lesson must be performed before the Two Pistes, until success has been obtained.

Second Lesson.

At the second lesson, the horse must be reined-up to the "Surfaix Cavalier." The bit-reins must be fixed in the second holes, and the snaffle reins in the fourth holes. The horse must be walked for a quarter of an hour upon a straight line. He must perform the "Pas d'équilibre décomposé," forward and backward. He must perform the pirouette on the shoulders. He must perform the movement of the Two Pistes. (See Lesson No. 16, page 115.) If the "Pas d'équilibre" forward and backward, has been well executed, two lessons will be sufficient. A quarter of an hour before the end of the lesson, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the sixth holes; and the horse must be walked and trotted alternately. (See Lesson, on starting at a walk and a trot, No. 20, page 120.)

Third Lesson.

At the third lesson the horse must be reined-up to the "Surfaix Cavalier." The four reins must be fixed in the seventh holes. The horse must be walked and trotted for a quarter of an hour on a straight line. He must perform the pirouette on the shoulders. The near bit and snaffle reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the fourth holes, and the off bit and snaffle reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" in the tenth holes. The horse must be walked and trotted very slowly, taking care to halt him frequently, by lightly feeling the off snaffle rein. He should be much patted and encouraged. At the end of a quarter of an hour reverse the mode. Afterwards, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the eighth holes. The horse must be "reined back" for a quarter of an hour. (See Lesson No. 22, page 123.) He should perform the movement of the Two Pistes, for a quarter of an hour before the end of the lesson. (See Lesson No. 17, page 117.)

In order that a horse may equilibrate ("s'équilibrer") readily, the trot must be very short; and that he may also "se rassembler," to give high action in the trot, it must be gradually increased, taking care not to augment the pace.

Fourth Lesson.

At the fourth lesson, the horse must be reined up to the "Surfaix Cavalier." The four reins must be fixed in the eighth holes. The horse must be made to know the use of the "long whip." (See Lesson No. 6, page 103.) Afterwards, the horse must be walked and trotted very slowly. He must be halted frequently, and started again by a slight touch of the whip-thong, care being taken that the touch is so light as not to frighten him. The trot must be slow enough to allow a man to walk by the horse's side.

The horse must be "reined back" for a quarter of an hour.

The near bit and snaffle reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the fifth holes; and the off bit and snaffle reins in the tenth holes. The horse must be walked and trotted alternately, on a straight line, for a quarter of an hour. Afterwards, use the reverse means.

A quarter of an hour before the end of the lesson, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the ninth holes, and the horse must perform the movement of the Two Pistes. (See Lesson No. 18, page 118.)

Fifth Lesson.

At the fifth lesson the horse must be reined up to the "Surfaix Cavalier." The four reins must be fixed in the tenth holes. The horse must be made acquainted with the use of the spur. (See Lesson No. 7, page 105.) He must be "rassembled" (see Lesson No. 24, page 125) for a quarter of an hour; and "reined back" for a quarter of an hour. He must perform "left about," "right about" (see Lesson No. 13, page 112): and the movement of the Two Pistes. (See Lesson No. 18, page 118.)

The near bit and snaffle reins must be fixed in the sixth holes; and the off bit and snaffle reins in the eleventh holes. The man holds the lunge very loosely in his left hand, and with the snaffle rein must make the horse describe a circle to the left; after two or three circles, he must walk by the horse's shoulder, patting and encouraging him, and still holding the lunge loosely. If the horse should attempt to stop, the man must instantly draw him forward with the snaffle rein. When he sees that the horse is at his ease, and moves with confidence, the man must retire from him, step by step, lengthening the lunge as he goes, and keeping it very loose. When the horse has made several circles at a walk, the

man should go up to him gently, and caress him; he must then hold the snaffle rein in his right hand, half a yard from the horse's chin, and start him at a very slow trot, with a "click" of the tongue. When the horse trots freely, the man should retreat from him again, lengthening the lunge very gradually, and still taking care to keep it very loose; and after describing some circles to the left, he must make the horse circle to the right, by reversing the means.

A quarter of an hour before the end of the lesson, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the twelfth holes. The man stations himself at the horse's near shoulder; he holds the lunge loosely in his left hand, and walks the horse upon a straight line.

Sixth Lesson.

At the sixth lesson, the horse must be reined-up to the "Surfaix Cavalier." The four reins must be fixed in the twelfth holes. The Spur Lesson must be given. (See Lesson No. 8, page 107.) Repeat the "long whip" lesson. The horse must be "rassembled" for a quarter of an hour; and reined-back for a quarter of an hour. He must perform "left about," "right about." The head and neck must be kept up, to produce noble carriage (see Lesson No. 21, page 122); and the movement of the Two Pistes. (See Lesson No. 18, page 118.)

To make the horse start at a gallop, with the proper foot, see Lesson No. 23, page 124.

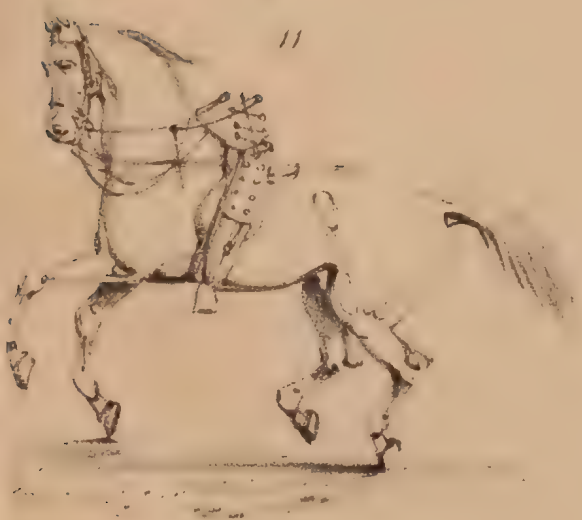
The near bit and snaffle-reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the eighth holes, and the off bit and snaffle reins in the thirteenth holes. The horse must describe circles, at a walk and a trot. (See the preceding Lesson.)

A quarter of an hour before the end of the lesson the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the thirteenth holes. The man stations himself at the horse's near shoulder; he holds the lunge loosely in his left hand, and walks the horse upon a straight line.

Seventh Lesson.

At the seventh lesson the horse must be reined-up to the "Surfaix Cavalier." The four reins must be fixed in the fifteenth holes. In the different changes the reins must be fixed two holes shorter than in the preceding lesson. The whole of the work of the preceding lesson must be repeated. In the movement of the "circles," the "long whip" must be used. When the horse has become quite steady at a slow trot, the man will "click" his tongue, and touch the horse very lightly with the whip, to make him start at a gallop. If the horse does not start instantly, the same means must be continued until he does. In order that the start at a gallop should be good, the horse must start quietly, and without excitement; if he bounds off wildly, and jumps about, he must be stopped directly, and be walked with the snaffle rein, until he becomes quite calm.

A quarter of an hour before the end of the lesson, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the fifteenth holes. The horse must be walked on a straight line, and he must be made to keep up his head and neck.



Sketches taken during the Progress of Breaking in a Horse, in 12 Lessons.

by Madame Isabelle's invention of the patent "Surfaix Cavalier."

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Eighth Lesson.

At the eighth lesson the horse must be reined-up to the "Surfaix Cavalier." The four reins must be fixed in the sixteenth holes. The horse must be "rassembled" for a quarter of an hour, and "reined back" for a quarter of an hour. He must be made to keep his head and neck up. He must be walked and trotted on a straight line, taking care to halt him very often; and to make him start again by feeling the off bit rein, and touching him with the butt-end of the whip behind the girths. He must perform the movement of the Two Pistes. (See Lesson No. 19, page 119.)

The near bit and snaffle reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the eleventh holes, and the off bit and snaffle reins in the sixteenth. The horse being thus reined-up, the man stations himself at his near shoulder, holding the lunge loosely in his left hand, and the near snaffle rein in his right hand. He draws the horse gently forward with the snaffle rein, and walks so as to make the horse describe a dozen small circles successively to the "left." For the circles to the "right," reverse the means. This mode of reining-up the horse for the small suc-

cessive circles, has for its object to teach him to turn to the near side, the bearing of the rein being strongest on the off side, and the reverse.

The horse must be walked and trotted on a straight line.

The horse must be walked, trotted, and galloped, in circles, with the "long whip," as described in the preceding lesson.

Fix the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" in the eighteenth holes, and repeat Lesson No. 23, page 124, for a quarter of an hour, to make the horse start a gallop with the proper foot.

Ninth Lesson.

At the ninth lesson, the horse must be reined-up to the "Surfaix Cavalier." The four reins must be fixed in the eighteenth holes. The horse must be "rassembled" for a quarter of an hour; and "reined back" for a quarter of an hour, perfectly straight, and by the slightest possible action of the reins. He must be made to keep his head and neck up for ten minutes.

The near bit and snaffle reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the twelfth holes, and the off bit and snaffle reins in the eighteenth holes. The horse must perform the movement of the Two Pistes. (See Lesson No. 19, page 119.) The horse must walk, trot, and gallop in circles, with the "Long Whip." He must then make the small circles successively. (See the preceding Lesson.)

The four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the first holes. The horse must be taught to jump. (See Lesson No. 25, page 127.)

Tenth Lesson.

At the tenth lesson, the horse must be reined-up to the "Surfaix Cavalier." The four reins must be fixed in the twentieth holes; and afterwards the near bit and snaffle reins in the fourteenth holes, and the off bit and snaffle reins in the twentieth holes. For the jumping lesson, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the sixth holes.

The whole of the exercises of the preceding lesson must be repeated, taking care to keep the horse's head and neck well up whilst "reining back."

Eleventh Lesson.

At the eleventh lesson, the horse must be reined-up to the "Surfaix Cavalier." The four reins must be fixed in the twenty-second holes; and afterwards the near bit and snaffle reins in the sixteenth holes, and the off bit and snaffle reins in the twenty-second holes. For the jumping lesson, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the tenth holes. The whole of the exercises of the tenth lesson must be repeated.

Twelfth Lesson.

At the twelfth lesson, the horse must be reined-up to the "Surfaix Cavalier." If the horse is large, the reins must be fixed in every respect as in the preceding lesson. If the horse is of the ordinary size, all the reins must be shortened one hole in all the different changes of the exercises. For the jumping lesson, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the twelfth holes. If the horse is small, all the reins must be fixed, in the different changes of the exercises, two holes shorter. For the jumping lesson, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the fifteenth holes.

BREAKING-IN CARRIAGE HORSES IN SIX LESSONS.

MODE OF REINING-UP THE HORSE TO THE "SURFAIX CAVALIER."

NEAR SIDE.			OFF SIDE.		
LESSONS.	Bit Rein.	Snaffle Rein.	LESSONS.	Bit Rein.	Snaffle Rein.
First . . .	4	4	First . . .	4	4
	5	8		5	8
Second .	6	6	Second .	6	6
	6	9		6	9
Third . .	8	8	Third . .	8	8
	10	13		10	13
Fourth .	12	15	Fourth .	12	15
	16	16		11	11
	15	18		15	18
Fifth . . .	18	20	Fifth . . .	18	20
	18	18		12	12
	22	24		22	24
Sixth . .	20	22	Sixth . .	20	22
	19	19		13	13
	23	24		23	24

BREAKING-IN OF CARRIAGE HORSES,

In Six Lessons.

FIRST PART.

PREPARATORY WORK IN THE STABLE.

During the whole of the breaking-in, the crupper must be put on the horse whilst he is in the stable. In the first lessons, a piece of linen should be wrapped round the crupper, and it should be warmed slightly in the hand, before passing it under the horse's tail. Care must be taken to avoid making any noisy motions with it, and, above all, the horse must not be allowed to see it. In the first lessons it must be placed with the greatest caution, so as not to frighten the horse. The crupper must be put on in the morning, and left upon the horse all day; but, as it might wound him during the night, it must be taken off every evening,

At the second lesson, when the crupper has remained three or four hours upon the horse, the harness must be placed upon him. In order to pass the collar, a man must hold the forelock by the left hand, and the near ear by the right hand; the horse's head must be lowered very

gently and gradually. Another man must pass the collar over the head, taking great care not to touch the horse's head with it; the horse, thus harnessed, must remain for a quarter of an hour, and he must be rewarded with a handful of oats.

At the fourth lesson, after the horse is harnessed, he must be bridled. A carriage must be placed quite straight in the yard, the shafts being upon the ground. The horse is led towards it, and halted a yard in front of the shafts, his croupe towards them, so that he stands between them. One man stations himself at the horse's off shoulder, and holds the off snaffle rein in his left hand, placing his right hand before the horse's off eye, and speaking kindly to him. Another man stations himself at the horse's near shoulder, and holds the near snaffle rein with his right hand, placing his left hand before the horse's near eye. At this moment the shafts must be lifted up, and the horse backed very slowly, step by step, until he comes between the shafts, they are then to be lowered very gently, care being taken not to touch the horse with them. The shafts are passed through the tugs, and immediately they are so, the horse must be patted and encouraged; he must then be taken out of the shafts very slowly, be led back to the stable, and caressed.

At the fifth lesson, the men must proceed in the manner above described, only two more reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed to the bit rings, and by which the men will lead the horse. When the horse is in the shafts, the belly-band and the rest of the harness must be fixed: the bearing-rein must have a small piece of leather, sewn by both ends, in the centre of it, thus forming a loop, through which the hook on the saddle is passed. The horse must be borne up very lightly at first, and the strain gradually increased. The men must lead the horse gently forward by feeling the bit reins, and at the same moment the wheels must be turned gently round, to set the carriage in motion. The horse must walk five minutes.

At the sixth lesson, the above means must again be adopted. At the expiration of five minutes, the man in the carriage will drive the horse at a walk, taking care to make him describe circles frequently, so that he may turn readily. He must then be started at a walk, and a trot, using the means described in the breaking-in by the "Surfaix Cavalier."

If it is wished that the horse shall become quite confident, and have no fear, he should go through the Flag Lesson (See Lesson No. 9, page 108)—

the Drum and Pistol-shot Lesson, (see Lesson No. 10, page 109)—and Sabre Lesson (No. 12, page 111). All sorts of noises should be made in the stable, taking care to give the horse a handful of oats immediately afterwards.

If the horse is intended for double harness, or four-in-hand, he must be driven with a quiet, well-trained, old horse. The traces must be tightened, so that he cannot throw his shoulders over them. The inner reins must not be shortened too much, for, if so, the horses' heads will be drawn together inwards, and their shoulders will be thrown outwards, which is a very unsightly position. When the traces are properly tightened, and the action of the reins equal, the horses will start quite straight. Care must be taken, whilst driving them, to use the whip on the outward flanks and shoulders, to accustom the horses to remain as close as possible to the pole. The horses must be taught to stop on the lightest touch of the hand; to produce this, they must be pulled up frequently, gradually diminishing the force of the action of the hand.

The horses' mouths must be examined thoroughly, in order that they may be so bitted that the action of both bits should be precisely the same on each mouth; that is to say, if a horse has a very tender mouth, he must have a light bit: if,

on the contrary, he is hard-mouthed, the bit must be sharper. If the horses are not bitted in this manner, the inevitable result when they are pulled up is, that the light-mouthed horse stops first; whereby all the weight of the carriage is thrown upon his reins and back, and the weight is all the stronger from his having to contend with the draft of the hard-mouthed horse, who is actually drawing at the time the light-mouthed one stops. Attention must be paid to both horses pulling together from the collar; if one hangs back, he must be urged forward with the whip, until the draft is quite equal. If a horse breaks into a gallop, he must be pulled up instantly, and walked for a minute or two before resuming the trot. If the horses are fretful and impatient, they must be stopped very often, in order to calm them; and they must never be allowed to increase any pace of their own accord. The horses must not be permitted to start immediately they hear the steps put up, which practice is very dangerous, and has caused many accidents; therefore, in the first lessons, care must be taken, when the steps are put up, not to start the horses before five or ten minutes have elapsed: that is to say, if they are very impatient indeed, ten minutes ought to be the time.

SECOND PART.—BY THE "SURFAIX CAVALIER."

First Lesson.

The horse must be saddled and bridled, and bitted with bit and snaffle, during the whole of the breaking-in. (See Lesson No. 1, page 86.) The horse must be reined-up to the "Surfaix Cavalier." The four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the fourth holes. The "Long Whip" lesson must be continued during the whole of the breaking-in. (See Lesson No. 6, page 103.) The horse must be reined back for half an hour, keeping his head low. (See Lesson No. 22, page 123.) The bit reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the fifth holes, and the snaffle reins in the eighth holes. The man stations himself at the horse's near shoulder, he holds the lunge loosely in his left hand, and walks him for an hour, taking care to encourage him at intervals.

In order to produce freedom of action in the shoulders, six lessons of the raising of the fore-legs must be given. (See Lesson No. 2, page 94.)

Fourth Lesson.

The horse must be reined-up to the "Surfaix Cavalier." The bit reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the twelfth holes, and the snaffle reins in the fifteenth holes. The horse must be reined back for half an hour. The off bit and snaffle reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the eleventh holes, and the near bit and snaffle reins in the sixteenth holes. The horse being thus reined-up, the man stations himself at the near shoulder, he holds the lunge loosely in his left hand, and the near snaffle rein in his right hand. He draws the horse gently forward with the snaffle rein, and walks so as to make the horse describe a dozen small successive circles to the "left," afterwards to the "right," reversing the means.

The bit reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the fifteenth holes, and the snaffle reins in the eighteenth holes. The horse's head and neck must be kept well up; he must be alternately walked and trotted, for three quarters of an hour.

Fifth Lesson.

The horse must be reined up to the "Surfaix Cavalier." The bit reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the eighteenth holes, and the snaffle reins in the twentieth holes. The horse's head and neck must be kept well up. The horse must be walked and trotted. He must be reined back for a quarter of an hour.

The off bit and snaffle reins must be fixed in the twelfth holes, and the near bit and snaffle reins in the eighteenth holes. The horse must describe small circles, as in the preceding lesson.

The bit reins must be fixed in the twenty-second holes, and the snaffle reins in the twenty-fourth holes. The horse must be walked and trotted for half an hour.

Sixth Lesson.

The horse must be reined up to the "Surfaix Cavalier." The bit reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the twentieth, and the snaffle reins in the twenty-second holes. The horse must be reined back for a quarter of an hour. The horse's head and neck must be kept well up.

The off bit and snaffle reins must be fixed in the thirteenth holes, and the near bit and snaffle reins in the nineteenth holes. The horse must describe small circles to the right and left, as in the preceding lessons.

The bit reins must be fixed in the twenty-third holes, and the snaffle reins in the twenty-fourth holes. The horse must be walked and trotted for an hour.

MODE OF BREAKING-IN RACE HORSES,

AND GIVING THEM GREAT SPEED.

The saddle and the "Surfaix Cavalier," with its four reins, must be placed on the horse's back. The horse must be bitted with a bit and snaffle. (See Lesson No. 1, page 86.) The four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" in the first holes. The horse must be brought to a knowledge of the "Whip." (See Lesson No. 5, page 101.) The horse must perform the "pas d'équilibre décomposé," forward and backward, for three quarters of an hour. (See Lesson No. 4, page 97.) The man stations himself at the horse's near shoulder. He holds the lunge loosely in his left hand, and the near snaffle rein in his right hand, six inches from the horse's chin. The man must walk the horse for three quarters of an hour, taking the longest steps he can, and regulating the horse's pace by his own. As soon as the horse has become steady, he will leave off holding the snaffle rein. At the second lesson, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the fourth holes. The horse must be

brought to know the "long whip" for four lessons. (See Lesson No. 6, page 103.) The horse must perform the "pas d'équilibre décomposé," forward and backward, for three quarters of an hour. He must then be walked for three quarters of an hour, in the manner above described. At the third lesson, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the eighth holes. The horse must be brought to a knowledge of the "spur," see Lessons Nos. 7 and 8, pages 105 and 107; and he must perform the "pas d'équilibre décomposé," forward and backward, for half an hour. Care must be taken, in the "pas forward," to extend the horse's legs as much in advance as possible. The horse must be walked and trotted alternately (see Lesson No. 20, page 120), taking care to halt him frequently, and to place the fore legs two inches in advance of the vertical line. At the fourth lesson, the horse must be taught the action of the reins. (See Lesson No. 23, page 121.) At the fifth and sixth, the work of the third lesson must be repeated, taking care to shorten the reins by two holes at each lesson. The Drum and Pistol-shot lessons must be repeated (see Lesson No. 10, page 109); also the Flag lesson (see Lesson No. 9, page 108); and the Jumping lesson. (See Lesson No. 25, page 127.)

At the seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, and eleventh lessons, the horse must be walked and trotted for three quarters of an hour, as above described, taking care to shorten the reins by two holes at each lesson. The horse must be walked, trotted, and galloped in circles for three quarters of an hour, in the manner described in "The Breaking-in in Twelve Lessons." The speed of the paces must be gradually increased, so that, when the horse shall be in full gallop, he must be pulled up, and started immediately at a full trot. He must change alternately from full gallop to full trot, and from full trot to full gallop. As soon as the horse increases his speed, he must be halted and encouraged. In this work the increase of speed must be slow, to prevent the horse jumping, and throwing himself about. During the whole of these eleven lessons, the horse must be walked one hour in the morning before the lesson, and one hour in the evening. The man will mount an old horse, and lead the other by his side. During the last six lessons, the horse must be mounted. (See Lesson No. 26, page 129.)

When the horse has received this preparatory instruction, it is important that he should be walked twice a day, for two hours each time,

during a week, that he may become quite steady, before he is put in training. During this time, and throughout the whole of the training, the horse must be bitted with a bridoon.

At the end of this week, the training must be commenced. At first, the horse should be mounted by a lad of very light weight, and of an excellent temper. The lads must be strictly enjoined never to play with young horses, for the practice sometimes renders them vicious, and always endangers the men. The more highly bred the horses are, the more playful they are; and when the lads have once began to play with them, the horses play both with their legs and teeth, and thus it often happens that accidents take place, without the slightest vice on the part of the horse. The horse must be walked for half an hour, then trotted for five minutes, and galloped for one minute only, the pace being gradually increased. A slight halt must be made, and the horse started again at a full trot, for one minute. When the pace is as good as it can be made, the horse must be brought to a halt, and then started immediately at a gallop, for one minute, gradually increasing his speed. Afterwards, he must be walked for two hours and a half. This exercise should be repeated

twice a-day, for a fortnight. The horse must be walked for twenty minutes, and then trotted and galloped alternately for six minutes, in the manner described above. Care must be taken never to allow him to change the pace of his own accord. Whenever an excellent pace has been obtained, the horse must be encouraged. This exercise must be continued for a week.

At this point of the training, if the horse is destined for a trotting match, the gallops must be discontinued; if, on the contrary, he is being trained for the usual galloping races, the trotting must cease for the remainder of the training, and another horse, or several, must now accompany the original one in all the rest of his work. They should first be walked for twenty minutes, then they should be galloped against each other abreast, at their very best pace; whenever the animal so in training wins, he must be patted and caressed, and whenever he loses, he should be struck, lightly but sharply, with the whip. After a few minutes' rest, the horses should be started again at a gallop, six times, for one minute each, giving them one minute's rest at each interval, and then they should be walked for two hours and a half.

At the expiration of a fortnight, the horses

should gallop twice, for two minutes each, for five successive days: and in the last five days of training, there must be two gallops, of three minutes each.

This training is for flat races; but if a horse is intended for a steeple-chase, it must be conducted exactly in the same manner, with the exception, that at each exercise the horse must be made to take some artificial jumps, commencing with very easy ones, and gradually increasing the difficulties. In jumping, the rider's hands should be kept even, and quite still, so as not to check the horse, by feeling his mouth roughly; nor should he be touched with the spurs, except when he refuses. In order to make a horse jump freely, it will be sufficient to press him with the legs, and to give a tap with the whip upon the shoulders.

In the breaking-in by the "Surfaix Cavalier," it is very important to accustom the horse to start forward at the slightest touch of the whip, or the spur. The abuse of the whip and the spur renders horses fretful, and impatient at starting, and frequently makes them jump from under the riders; and instead of starting, on being touched with the spur, they remain perfectly still, or become restive.

Throughout the training, the lad will keep his legs quite still; he must not use his heels, except to start the horse, or to increase the speed; and the jockey who rides the race must act in the same way. That the horse may not be baulked at the moment he jumps, the rider should close his fingers, and keep his hands still; he will throw his loins a little back, press his knees in, and keep his heels well down.

To bring horses to be steady at starting, they should be frequently ranged in a line; then started at a walk, and never at a gallop until they have become quite calm; for nothing can be worse than false starts at races, which tires the horses, and makes them run over much ground unnecessarily.

In order to have a good chance of winning, a horse should never be over-worked in his training. It often happens that, in running, a horse's speed, instead of being increased, has been diminished, by the fatigue he has undergone in training.

Before putting a horse into training, it is very important to accustom him to every sort of noise, and to all objects that may frighten him. In the beginning of the training, the result of changing the horse alternately, from a trot to a

gallop, at the strongest possible pace, is infallibly to increase his speed enormously. Inasmuch as galloping is the most fatiguing pace, especially for a young horse, it happens, when the training has reached a certain point, that the two diagonal limbs which sustain the weight of the body become tired, and it is impossible for the horse to increase the pace. In changing the gallop to a trot, the two tired limbs receive instant relief, and the horse is re-invigorated; the result of which is, that he increases his speed in a very great degree. All horses trained in this way, will attain the greatest possible speed without tiring themselves.

If a horse is very fat at the beginning of his training, he should have three blankets put on him, and be cantered slowly for a quarter of an hour, twice a week, for a fortnight. When he has been pulled up, and stripped, two men, one at each side, must scrape him down. He must then be rubbed down with wisps of straw, until he is perfectly dry; and then rubbed with a very hard brush for half an hour, to bring back the heat to the skin. Afterwards, the horse must be rubbed down with a flannel, and covered up with two blankets, which have been previously well warmed. Care must be taken, when the horse's ears have

been wiped with a flannel, that they must be rubbed gently with the hand, till they are comfortably warm and dry. When the feet are washed, care must be taken not to wet the knees and hocks, for that tends to stiffen them, and impede the horse's speed. The feet should be stopped twice a day with lard, so as to keep them in good condition, and to prevent their becoming narrow-heeled, a defect which destroys speed in an immense degree.

It must be thoroughly understood, that throughout the breaking-in and training, no horse should ever be exercised, either when led or mounted, without being covered with the whole of his body clothes.

In many countries races are run over ground in hillocks; where such is the case, a horse will gain great advantage over his rivals, if his speed be relaxed on the level ground, in his galloping exercise, and he be trained two or three times a day on the rising ground, gradually increasing the speed as he surmounts each hillock, the lad keeping a light hand, and pushing the horse forward lightly with his heels.

BREAKING-IN LESSON FOR HORSES THAT "OVER-REACH."

Horses over-reach from different causes; some, because they "stand over," others, from their hocks being very stiff; and others, again, from the shoulders being straight. This defect often exists in young horses; but as most people have not studied the horse sufficiently to discover at once the precise cause of the defect, I shall point out the means by which success will be equally obtained in all three different cases. During the whole of this training, the horse must be made to lift his fore-legs for a quarter of an hour whilst in the stable. (See Lesson No. 2, page 94.) This movement must be gradually increased as much as possible. In the first eight lessons, at the beginning of each lesson, the horse must be reined-up on unequal reins, alternately on the off and near sides, for twenty minutes. (See Lesson on starting at a trot, No. 20, page 120.) The horse must perform the "pas d'equilibre décomposé," forward and backward, for the first six lessons (see Lesson No. 4, page 97), and in the manner described in the breaking-in lesson at page 78. The horse must

be reined back for twenty minutes at each lesson, during the whole of the training, throwing the head and neck up constantly, to produce noble carriage gradually. (See Lesson No. 21, page 122.) The horse must be walked and trotted alternately, for three quarters of an hour (see Lesson No. 20, page 120), taking care to halt him frequently, and to place his fore-legs two inches in advance of the vertical line.

During the work at a walk and trot, care must be taken to keep the head and neck well up.

This training should extend over twenty lessons. If the work has been well performed, at the end of this time the horse will have very good action, and will not over-reach at all.

It is the more important to remedy this defect, because it often happens that the horse strikes his hind shoes against his fore feet, and causes wounds.

BREAKING-IN LESSON FOR HORSES THAT "STAND-OVER."

When a horse stands well on his legs, all the four legs are placed vertically; but, if the fore-legs are behind the vertical line, the horse is said to "stand-over," and in this case the knees are often bent. A horse in this state should be made to perform the "pas d'équilibre décomposé," forward and backward, very slowly, during fifteen lessons. (See Lesson No. 4, page 97.) The man, by the use of the snaffle, must make the horse extend his legs as much in advance as possible, so that the weight shall rest upon the heels, and the man will take the longest steps he can. After fifteen lessons, the horse must be reined back very slowly for half an hour, his head and neck being thrown up gradually, in order to produce noble carriage. (See Lesson No. 21, page 122.) The horse must be walked and trotted alternately, taking care to halt him frequently, and to place the fore-legs two inches in advance of the vertical line. This position must always be obtained before starting the horse again. A quarter of an hour before the end of the lesson, the horse must be mounted, and then walked, trotted, and

galloped. To start the horse again, act as before described. This work must be repeated during fifteen lessons. After this, if the movements have been well executed, the horse's knees will be quite straight, he will stand well, and be perfectly upright on his legs.

It must be understood that in speaking of horses that "stand-over," I do not comprise old, worn-out, over-worked horses; but an immense number, which, although still young, have fallen into this bad state, by the abuse of the bridoon, by being worked before being broken-in, and which have been left too long in the fields before being taken up. In the latter case, they "stand over" without their knees being bent.

It is very important, in order to preserve the proper position of his legs, that the horse should be reined-up occasionally to the "Surfaix Cavalier" for half an hour, the bit reins being fixed in the twentieth holes, and the snaffle reins in the twenty-second holes. The horse, thus reined-up, should either be left in the stable during this time, or walked, the lunge being held loosely. By these means the horse will always be light in hand, which is indispensable; for the horse that drags heavily on the hand, cannot fail to injure his fore-legs.

BREAKING-IN LESSON FOR HORSES THAT REIN-BACK WITH DIFFICULTY.

When a horse refuses to rein back, the use of violence, which is too often resorted to in similar cases, is altogether absurd; because, often, it is not from a want of will that a horse refuses, but either his ignorance, the stiffness of his hocks, or the pain he suffers from their bad state, make it impossible for him to do so.

If it arises from ignorance, the horse must be reined up to the "Surfaix Cavalier." The four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the sixth holes. The horse must perform the "pas d'équilibre décomposé," forward and backward. (See Lesson No. 4, page 97.) At the second and third lessons, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the eighth holes. The horse must perform the "pas d'équilibre décomposé," forward and backward, during half the lesson. The four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the sixteenth holes. The horse must be walked and trotted until the end of the lesson. (See Lesson No. 20, page 120.)

At the fourth, fifth, and sixth lessons, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the sixteenth holes. The horse must be "ras-

sembled" during twenty minutes. (See Lesson No. 24, page 125.) The horse must be "reined back" during half an hour. (See Lesson No. 22, page 123.) The horse must be walked and trotted slowly, until the end of the lesson.

At the end of these six lessons, if the movements have been well executed, the horse will "rein back" perfectly.

If it arises from the stiffness of his hocks, in the first lesson the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the third holes. The horse must perform the "pas d'équilibre décomposé," forward and backward. Half an hour before the end of the lesson, the man stations himself at the horse's near shoulder, he holds the lunge loosely in his left hand, and walks the horse on a straight line.

At the second lesson, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the sixth holes, and the man will proceed as in the preceding lesson.

At the third lesson, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the eighth holes. The horse must perform the "pas d'équilibre décomposé," forward and backward. Half an hour before the end of the lesson, the near bit and snaffle reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be

fixed in the fourth holes, and the off bit and snaffle reins in the tenth holes. The horse, being thus reined, must be walked and trotted until the end of the lesson. (See Lesson No. 20, page 120.) As often as this movement is executed, care must be taken at the end of every quarter of an hour to change from "left" to "right" alternately, and so reverse the means.

At the fourth lesson, the near bit and snaffle reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the sixth holes, and the off bit and snaffle reins in the twelfth holes. The horse must be walked and trotted, taking care to halt him frequently.

At the fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth lessons, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the twelfth holes. The horse must be "rassembled" for twenty minutes. (See Lesson No. 24, page 125.) The near bit and snaffle reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the tenth holes, and the off bit and snaffle reins in the sixteenth holes. The horse must be walked and trotted, taking care to halt him frequently, until the end of the lesson.

At the ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth lessons, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in

the twentieth holes. The horse must be "rassembled" for twenty minutes. The near bit and snaffle reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the tenth holes, and the off bit and snaffle-reins in the eighteenth holes. He must perform the movement of the Two "Pistes" for half an hour. (See Lesson No. 19, page 119.) The four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the sixteenth holes. The horse must be "reined back," until the end of the lesson.

If these movements are well executed, at the end of fifteen lessons the stiffest horse will have become very supple, and will rein back perfectly.

If the horse's hocks are in a bad state, it will be best to begin by curing them before teaching him to rein back. Afterwards, the man must proceed in every respect as in the preceding lesson. If it is wished to make him rein back, notwithstanding the bad state of his hocks, in that case, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the fourth holes. During the two first lessons, the horse must perform the "pas d'équilibre décomposé" forward. During six lessons, the near bit and snaffle reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the sixth holes, and the off bit and snaffle reins in the twelfth. The four reins

must be shortened by a hole at each lesson. The horse must be walked and trotted slowly, alternately.

The object of reining-up the horse by unequal lengths of reins, is to well supple him at the junction of the head and neck,—that is to say, the region of the salivary glands.

The four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the fourteenth holes. He must perform the "pas d'équilibre décomposé" forward and backward for four lessons, taking care that his head is kept low, in order to his executing the "pas d'équilibre décomposé" backward more easily. The horse must be walked and trotted alternately for half an hour.

During the three last lessons, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the eighteenth holes. The horse must be reined back very slowly, still keeping his head low, and feeling the reins in the lightest possible manner. When the horse is mounted, care must be taken to rein him back with long reins, and an exceeding light hand; because, if the reins are short, the weight of the body is thrown upon the haunches, and thus the horse cannot rein back, in consequence of the bad state of his hocks.

THE FOLLOWING LESSONS

ARE THOSE WHICH ARE REFERRED TO IN THE COURSE OF THE FOREGOING

INSTRUCTIONS FOR BREAKING-IN.

Lesson No. 1.

TO SADDLE AND BRIDLE A HORSE, AND PLACE THE "SURFAIX CAVALIER."

Before saddling a horse, it is important to examine his anatomical conformation. If the loins are long and weak, the saddle must be placed as forward as possible; for, if it is placed far back, it will cause the horse to kick, and will certainly make him hollow-backed very shortly.

If the withers are very high, the saddle must be placed five inches behind the shoulder. When the withers are high, there are three reasons for not placing the saddle too far forward. First, the man's body will not be perpendicular; and, in that position, it will be impossible for him to gain his equilibrium, and his seat will be equally uncomfortable and fatiguing. Secondly, when a horse is shaped in this way, if the saddle is placed too far forward, it always presses upon the withers, and annoys the horse in his action. It often happens that the horse rears, in the hope of getting rid of the annoyance; and the manner of his rearing is the more dangerous, inasmuch as when a horse's withers are very

high, he has much greater strength in his forehand than in his quarters; and it not unfrequently occurs also, that he falls over backwards. Thirdly, if the saddle is placed too far forward, it produces wounds in the withers, and they are always difficult to cure, and occupy much time.

If the horse is shaped in the usual way, the saddle should be placed four inches behind the shoulder.

PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN, AND MEANS TO BE EMPLOYED, WITH HORSES THAT HAVE NEVER BEEN SADDLED OR BRIDLED.

The blanket must be folded so that there shall not be any crease in it under the saddle; it must not extend more than two inches before the pummel of the saddle, nor behind the saddle. It must first be placed upon the withers, and then moved gently to where it is to remain; care being taken that the horse's coat is not rubbed the wrong way. The saddle must then be placed carefully upon the blanket, and another man must hold it, so that it shall not slip forward when the girths are tightened. When the girths are three-parts tightened, the hand must be passed between the blanket and the withers, to be certain that it does not press upon them.

When the girths have been tightened by two holes, the hand must be passed under them, in order to keep the hair smooth, and the girths must be fixed sufficiently slack to allow two hands to be passed between them and the horse's body.

Before placing the "Surfaix Cavalier" on the saddle, its four reins should be rolled round the Iron Cavalier, so as not to touch the horse. That the horse may not be frightened by the "Surfaix Cavalier," the greatest care must be taken not to let him see it. To effect this, a man stations himself at the horse's near shoulder, and with his left hand gently draws his head as much as possible on that side. He then places his right hand over the horse's near eye, and at the same instant another man, stationed on the off side, must put the "Surfaix Cavalier" very lightly in the centre of the saddle, taking care that the girth shall fall vertically. It must be tightened gradually, beginning with the hindmost buckle, and fixing the girth very loose. The horse should have a handful of hay whilst the saddle and the "Surfaix Cavalier" are being placed, that his attention may be engaged.

Attention must be paid in placing the "Surfaix Cavalier," that when the girth is fixed, the buckles are on the near side.

As the effects of the "Surfaix Cavalier" are of the greatest importance, it must be placed with the utmost care, so that its relative action with the horse's mouth shall not be varied. In fixing it, attention must be paid that it does not lean too far forward; for in that case, the excellence of its effects will be much diminished. The horse must never be detached from the manger without the saddle and "Surfaix Cavalier" being fixed.

During the whole of the breaking-in, the horse must be bitted with a bit and snaffle.

Before bitting a horse, his mouth should be carefully examined, so that he may be bitted according to its formation. When the bars are thickly covered with flesh, they have very little sensation. In that case the canons (bars) ought to be one inch and a half in circumference, measured close to the branches. The canons (bars) should be rounded upwards, at the corners of the port, so as not to form an acute angle. If the horse has a large mouth, the port should be one inch and a quarter wide, measured from the two corners in the inside, and it should be one inch high in the middle of the inside. The branches, measured below the canons (bars), and in a straight line, should be four inches and one

eighth long. When the bars are slightly covered, and the bones are prominent, the mouth is very sensitive; and then, to prevent the horse shaking his head, and endeavouring to drag the reins out of the rider's hand, the canons (bars) of the bit should be hollow, and be one inch and seven-eighths in circumference. If the mouth is very narrow, the port must not be more than an inch wide; and to render the bit easier, the branches should not be more than three inches and seven-eighths long. For mouths of ordinary size and shape, the average of these dimensions must be taken.

The horse being detached from the manger, the man turns him quite round, very quietly; he presses the halter round the neck, takes hold of one ear and the forelock, and lowers the head very gently, whilst another man opens his mouth and puts in the bit and snaffle. The head-stall is placed behind the ears, and the brow-band is placed at the corners of, and immediately below the ears. In order that the horse may lower his head of his own accord, the man must be careful to caress him very much at the moment it is lowered. The bit must be placed as gently as possible in the horse's mouth, so as to avoid striking, or even

pressing upon the bars; for, in those cases, the pain the horse experiences will prevent him from lowering his head readily in future.

The throat-lash must remain exceedingly loose, and the nose-band is to be fixed so as to admit of two fingers passing between it and the horse's nose. With horses, the bit should be fixed behind the tusk; and with mares, one inch behind the corner tooth. The curb is not to be attached until a quarter of an hour before the end of the lesson of the "Surfaix Cavalier."

When the horse is bridled, the two foremost reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" are fixed to the rings of the bit; they are then passed through the two lower rings of the Iron Cavalier, and fixed in the first holes by the buckle, which is placed twenty inches from the bit. The two other reins are fixed to the rings of the snaffle; they are next passed through the two higher rings of the Iron Cavalier, and fixed by the buckle in the first holes. When the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" are fixed, the bit and snaffle reins are placed on the pummel of the saddle, in such a manner that they shall not fall too low upon the horse's shoulders. A cavesson, with a lunge, must be attached.

During the whole of the breaking-in by the "Surfaix Cavalier," the four check pieces of the bit and snaffle must be fixed two holes longer than when the horse is mounted. If the bit and snaffle are placed too high, the Iron Cavalier cannot produce its good effects, and the horse's mouth will remain cold and dry. If, on the contrary, the bit and snaffle are very low, the horse will champ the bit immediately, and his mouth will be moistened with saliva.

At the end of a few lessons, when the horse becomes trustful and confident, one man will suffice to saddle and bridle him. After six lessons, there will be no further occasion for the blanket underneath the saddle.

As there is no inconvenience in the reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" being too long, in the first lesson, and as there would be much in their being too short, the distance has been fixed for a long-necked horse, so that the reins may be fixed in the first holes without the slightest danger.

To prevent young horses from catching cold, care must be taken to put blankets on them whilst going from the stable to the Riding School, and returning.

Before beginning to break-in a horse, the

crupper must remain on him for eight days in the stable. The mode described at the beginning of the Breaking-in of Carriage-horses must be used.

To keep the horse's mouth in excellent order, so that he may be always very light in hand, it is sufficient to rein him to the "Surfaix Cavalier" for a quarter of an hour before riding him. This may be done in the stable.

For Cavalry Horses, Eight Lessons of the "Surfaix Cavalier" are sufficient to equilibrate the horse, and give him fine and graceful action. When there are several horses, it is indispensable that they should be kept a yard apart.

Lesson No. 2.

TO MAKE A HORSE LIFT HIS FORE-LEGS.

The saddle and "Surfaix Cavalier" must be placed on the horse's back, and the four reins must be fixed in the twelfth holes. The man stations himself at the near shoulder, takes hold of the near fore-leg below the knee, and lifts it gradually and very gently, taking care to encourage the horse much. The man puts the leg carefully down. When the horse yields his leg at the slightest touch of the hand, the near bit rein must be held in the right hand, the man will lift the horse's leg with his left hand, feeling the rein lightly at the same time. In the same ratio as the horse understands what is meant by the action of the rein, the man must diminish the action of the hand, and the hand must cease altogether, as soon as the horse lifts his leg at the touch of the rein only. To make the horse lift the off leg, use corresponding means.

This movement is very important, in order to supple the shoulders, and impart fine action to the fore-hand. One leg must always be lifted several times, before having recourse to

the other, so that the freedom of action may be gradually increased. If the horse refuses, when he knows what is meant by the touch of the reins, he must be struck lightly with the whip on the fore-arm until he obeys. The horse must be greatly caressed during this movement, and after every lesson he should be rewarded with a handful of oats.

By this movement fine action may even be imparted to straight-shouldered horses.

Lesson No. 3.

TO LEAD A HORSE TO THE RIDING SCHOOL.

The man must pass his right fore-finger between the snaffle reins. He must hold them six inches from the horse's chin. He must hold the lunge loosely in his left hand, and lead the horse at the slowest possible walk, that he may not become excited to play and jump about.

On entering the Riding School, the horse must be placed on the "Piste à main gauche." The man must station himself at the horse's near shoulder. He must hold the lunge loosely in his left hand, at a yard and a half from the horse's head. If the horse shrinks back, the man must approach towards him directly, and so near that the lunge shall remain loose.

Lesson No. 4.

PAS D'ÉQUILIBRE DÉCOMPOSÉ FORWARD AND BACKWARD.

The horse is placed on the "Left." The man holds the lunge loosely in his left hand, and the near snaffle rein at three inches distance from the horse's chin. He holds the near bit rein in his right hand, at the same distance, and draws the horse gently forward by lightly feeling the near snaffle rein. When the horse has advanced the near fore-foot and the off hind-foot, the man will halt the horse by feeling the near bit rein; at first, the action of the hand must be always preceded by uttering the word, "Hola." The man must proceed in the same way to make the horse advance the off fore-foot and the near hind-foot. Thus, the horse must never be allowed to lift a foot except when the hand that holds the snaffle rein requires it. If he advance a foot of his own free will, he must be stopped instantly, and made to put back immediately the limb he has put forward. The hand on the snaffle rein, therefore, draws two feet forward, the man

counting "one" whilst the first foot is being advanced: the hand on the bit rein holds the other two feet back, and keeps them on the ground, the man saying "Hola;" and when the hand on the snaffle rein causes the two other feet to be advanced, he counts "two" (thus continuing to count "one, two," "one, two," as long as the lesson endures). The man must count sufficiently loud to fix the horse's attention. He must take the longest possible steps, and regulate the horse's pace by his own.

PAS D'ÉQUILIBRE DÉCOMPOSÉ BACKWARD.

The near bit rein is drawn lightly back, to make the horse place back the off hind-foot and the near fore-foot, the man counting "one." The horse must be stopped by feeling the near snaffle rein, preceding the action of the hand by uttering "Hola," as in the "pas forward." Whilst the off fore-foot and the near fore-foot are being drawn back, when the first foot is raised, the man counts "two."

In this "Movement," care must be taken to place the lateral limbs so that they approach the centre of gravity equally. By these

means the very best diagonal position will be obtained.

If the horse throws his croupe towards the interior of the Riding School, his shoulders must be brought immediately opposite the haunches, that the horse may be again placed quite straight, and the man must wait until the horse is quite quiet, before recommencing the movement.

In the "pas d'équilibre forward," the horse must always be made to "lead" with the fore-foot which is towards the centre of the Riding School. In the "pas d'équilibre backward," the horse must "lead" with the hind-foot which is outside—that is to say, the one next to the wall.

This movement, called "pas d'équilibre," has for its object to accustom the horse to the man, and to make him quiet and attentive (two things indispensable to proper breaking-in); to habituate him to the support of the bit, and the action of his jaws upon it; to divide his powers equally and regularly; to "lead" with the proper foot in all his paces; to prepare him for the gallop, and to rein back readily. As this work is most important, it must be executed with the greatest care, and it must always be practised on a "Piste,"

or a perfectly straight line. The "Pas d'équilibre" is always executed on the "left," because this is much easier for the man.

In this movement, in order to render it more easy, the horse's head must be kept low. It is sufficient that the horse should execute the "pas d'équilibre décomposé" forward and backward, during the three first lessons.

Lesson No. 5.

THE WHIP LESSON.—TO FREE THE ACTION OF THE FORE-HAND, AND TO ACCUSTOM THE HORSE TO THE CONTACT OF THE WHIP WITH EVERY PART OF HIS BODY.

When a horse is first brought to a knowledge of the whip, it is important that it should be used with much gentleness. Care must be taken to draw it gently several times over his neck, the shoulders, the flanks, the haunches, on the croupe, and the back, caressing him much. Then it should be drawn across his head, showing it to him, at the same time speaking kindly to him, and patting him. Afterwards, the horse must be touched lightly with the whip on the shoulder, before and behind the girths. These touches have for their object to give confidence to the horse, and to prepare him for the action of the whip. If, however, whilst taking every precaution, and using it very carefully, the horse should happen to kick under its action, he must be corrected immediately, until he yields; and the correction should be severe. Severity, however, does not consist in violence; the latter always produces bad results, when a horse is being broken-in. The stroke of the whip should be sharp, with a quick movement

of the wrist. When a horse "refuses," he must never be allowed to have his own way; but when he obeys willingly, he should always be caressed. The man standing by the horse's near shoulder, holds the lunge and the near snaffle rein in his left hand, and the whip in his right hand, by the brass circle, the lash pointing downwards; he then strikes the horse lightly on the shoulder, at the same time drawing him gently forward with the snaffle rein. The strength with which the snaffle rein is felt, should be gradually diminished, until the horse learns to move forward from the whip alone. When the horse moves from the whip on the shoulder, he must be brought to do so on being touched with the butt-end of the whip before and behind the girths. Whenever the horse moves with the action of the whip, he should be stopped and encouraged. The lesson must be continued until the horse moves at the action of the whip, and without the aid of the snaffle rein.

The object of using the whip upon the shoulders, is to start the horse's fore-hand forward instantly. The object of using the butt-end of the whip behind the girths, is to prepare the horse for the action of the man's leg when mounted.

Lesson No. 6.

THE "LONG WHIP" LESSON.

The four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the eighth holes. The horse must be placed on the "left," perfectly straight against a wall. The whip lash must be kept twisted round the handle; it must be drawn very gently over the back, the flanks, the haunches, down the legs, the neck, and over the head. It must then be shown to him, and he must be much encouraged. The man holds the lunge in the left hand, the snaffle rein in the right hand; he must pat the horse, whilst he who holds the whip, after having shown it to the horse, stations himself immediately opposite the girths. He untwists the thong, and touches the horse lightly with the whip-thong. As soon as the horse moves forward, he must be encouraged. The horse must be kept moving forward by slight taps on the haunches and the flanks; and whilst he moves, the whip must rest successively on the croupe, the shoulders, and the back; and the horse must be encouraged, so as to accustom him to the contact of the whip with

every part of his body, without his being in the least frightened. The man who holds the whip retires from the horse, and smacks the whip, very gently at first, and then gradually increases the noise. At every smack of the whip, the man who leads the horse must take care to caress him. This lesson must not be discontinued until the horse has become perfectly steady, and is not frightened at the whip in the least.

Lesson No. 7.

THE FIRST "SPUR" LESSON.

The horse must be placed perfectly straight on the "left," near a wall. The man stations himself at the horse's near shoulder, holding the lunge and the near snaffle rein in his left hand, and the whip in his right hand. He rests the butt-end of the whip on the horse's shoulder; he taps it gently at the instant that he moves the horse forward, by lightly touching the snaffle rein. As soon as the horse has obeyed, he must be halted and encouraged. If, on the contrary, he refuses, the action of the whip must be increased, and the action of the rein must be continued, until he obeys. The man must use the same mode before and behind the girths. The man must use the same mode with the spur; that is to say, first he must touch the shoulder as gently as possible; when the horse moves from it, he must employ it in a similar way before and behind the girths. The man must gradually diminish the action of the rein, in the same ratio that the horse understands; and it must be discontinued as soon

as he moves forward readily at the touch of the spur, without the aid of the rein. The horse must be much encouraged whenever he obeys. It is very important to give him confidence.

During the whole of the movements in which the spur is used, the flat side must be employed. If the horse "refuses," on being touched with it, he must be corrected instantly with a sharp touch of the rowel. During the whole of the training, the whip and the spur must be used with great gentleness, to make the horse at his ease with them, and that he may be able to understand that severity is never employed except in cases of resistance, not from ignorance, but from want of will.

Lesson No. 8.

THE SECOND "SPUR" LESSON.—TO START THE HORSE BY DIAGONAL ACTION.

The man must use the butt-end of the whip on the shoulder, before and behind the girths, and the snaffle rein as described in the "Whip" Lesson. He must proceed in the same manner with the spur. When the horse moves forward readily, from the touch of the spur, the man holds the off bit rein in his right hand, and makes the horse drop his lower jaw at each touch of the spur. When he has attained this result at a walk, he must obtain the dropping of the jaw at a very slow trot. In order that the horse whilst moving may drop his jaw from the action of the whip or spur, as he is accustomed to champ his bit with the "Surfaix Cavalier," it will be sufficient to resist him rather strongly two or three times with the hand, so that afterwards he will yield with the lightest touch of the reins. This movement must be executed at a walk, and a slow trot, taking care to halt the horse several times with the lightest possible touch of the rein.

Lesson No. 9.

THE FLAG LESSON.

The man holds a furled flag in his right hand. He stations himself at the horse's near shoulder, as closely as possible; he places the flag very gently on the croupe, touches the flanks, the shoulders, the chest, and neck. He then shows the flag to the horse, patting him with his left hand, and speaking encouragingly to him. He unfolds the flag gradually, showing it to the horse, and each time he does so using the means described above. The flag ought never to be shown to a horse before he has been touched with it; and whilst touching him, the greatest gentleness must be employed. This lesson must be continued, until the horse does not show the slightest fear.

Lesson No. 10.

THE DRUM LESSON.—THE PISTOL SHOT.

The man stations himself at the horse's near shoulder, holding the lunge loosely, and the near snaffle rein in his left hand, three inches from the horse's mouth. He must pat the horse with his right hand every time the drum is beaten. At first one drum only is used, and is tapped very gently for one second only; then the taps must be gradually increased in strength, until it is beaten as loudly as possible. When the horses have become quite quiet, they must be walked for a short time, and the same means must be repeated, always beginning gently with the drum, and gradually increasing the sound.

A half charge must be placed in a pistol, and discharged behind the horse, as far off as possible. When he is on one of the long sides of the Riding School, a second shot must be fired from the opposite side, in the air, and in the middle of the school; and, subsequently, a third, in face of him, as he is approaching. During the time this is taking place, the horse must be patted and encouraged as much as possible.

Lesson No. 11.

THE MUSIC LESSON.

The drum having been beaten for five minutes as loudly as possible, a trumpet must be brought, and, at first, blown very gently indeed. At the end of a few minutes, another trumpet should be added, and also be blown gently, the drum being still beaten strongly. The whole of the band instruments will join in successively, and at intervals, playing very softly at first. All this time the horse should be walked, and much encouraged. If he becomes frightened whilst passing the band, the music must cease playing until he has got a certain distance off, and as he re-approaches, only one instrument must be played, and that very slowly, so that his confidence may be restored. The other instruments will resume playing when the horse has passed.

Lesson No. 12.

THE SABRE LESSON.

The man stations himself at the horse's near shoulder. He holds the lunge loosely in his left hand, and the sabre, in the scabbard, in his right hand. He places the left hand before the horse's near eye. He draws the sabre very gently over the croupe, touches the flanks, the shoulders, the neck, and the head. He then shows the sabre to the horse, taking care to caress him. He draws the sabre very slowly from the scabbard, and then more quickly, gradually increasing the noise. When the horse becomes confident, and does not show any symptoms of fear, the man must fix the sabre, by the belt, to the Iron Cavalier, so that it shall not hang too low. The man will place his right hand behind the girths, and will keep it there until the horse becomes quite steady. The horse must be walked twice round the Riding School, halting him frequently, and patting and encouraging him as much as possible.

At the second lesson, the man will proceed in the same manner; but before the end of the lesson the horse must be trotted for ten minutes, halting him frequently, and caressing him.

Lesson No. 13.

LEFT ABOUT—RIGHT ABOUT.

The horse is placed on the "left" upon the Piste. The man holds the lunge with his right hand, near the horse's nose; he holds the whip in his left hand, horizontally, at four inches from the horse, and three inches above the elbow. He stations himself in front of the horse. He directs the horse's fore-hand to the left, stopping him step by step, until the horse touches the wall, taking care that the hind feet do not quit the ground. Care must be taken in this movement that the horse does not cross his legs. If the horse throws his haunches to the right, some taps must be given with the points of the whip, until he resumes his position. When this has been effected, he must be patted and caressed.

In "Right about," use the reverse means.

Lesson No. 14.

THE PIROUETTE ON THE FORE-HAND.

The man stations himself at the horse's near shoulder, and holds with his left hand the lunge and the near snaffle rein quite close to the horse's head, in order to prevent him from advancing or going back. He taps with his right hand behind the girths, he stops the horse step by step, and makes him describe a circle to the left with his hind quarters, taking care to stop the near fore-leg with the snaffle rein, in order to obtain a pivot with that leg.

Lesson No. 15.

PIROUETTE ON THE HAUNCHES.

After having made the horse perform "Left-about, Right-about" for four lessons, the horse must be placed in the interior of the Riding School, at three yards and a half distance from the wall. A man rests one of his hands on the centre of the horse's haunches, and the other hand before the girths. Another man stations himself in the same way on the other side of the horse. The man who is breaking-in the horse takes the lunge in his right hand, rests his left hand upon the horse's shoulder, and makes him describe a circle to the left with his fore-hand, taking care to stop the horse step by step. During this time the man stationed at the horse's near side does not move his hands, neither does he press in the least with them. He must only lean heavy if the horse throws his haunch towards his side, and in that case he must offer an instant opposition. The man stationed on the off side, at each step taken by the fore-legs, must press his hand upon the haunch, so as to keep the hind quarters fixed quite still, and make a pivot of the off hind foot.

For the Pirouette to the "right," the reverse means must be used.

Lesson No. 16.

MOVEMENT OF THE TWO PISTES DÉCOMPOSÉ, WITH THE AID OF THE LUNGE.

This movement is commonly called "Passage," but as this term is incorrect, and belongs to another movement, I shall use the expression, "Movement of the Two Pistes," throughout my system.

The horse must be placed with his croupe to the wall. The man, with his left hand, holds the lunge close to the horse's nose; he stations himself a little before the horse's near shoulder, and holds the near snaffle rein in his right hand, to prevent the horse from moving forward. In this position the horse will be compelled to cross the two near legs over the off ones. The man counts "one," and at the same moment taps the horse lightly with his hand before the girths, to make him bear towards to the right. He stops a little, in order to give time for the off legs to disengage themselves; the man then counts "two," and makes the horse again cross the near legs over the off ones. Care must be taken that the horse always begins with the fore legs,

Lesson No. 18.

THIRD LESSON OF THE MOVEMENT OF THE TWO PISTES.

In the third lesson, the horse and the man must be placed in the same position as in the second, and the man must proceed in the manner there described, only he must hold the off bit rein and the whip in his right hand. He must make the horse drop his lower jaw by the action of the rein at each movement.

Lesson No. 19.

FOURTH LESSON OF THE MOVEMENT OF THE TWO PISTES, WITH THE AID OF THE SPUR.

The near bit and snaffle reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the twelfth holes. The off bit and snaffle reins must be fixed in the eighteenth holes. The horse must be placed slightly obliqued to the right. The man holds the lunge loosely in the left hand, and the bit reins and whip in his right hand; he touches him slightly with the spur, and makes him drop the lower jaw at every step by the least possible touch of the reins.

For the "right," reverse the means.

Lesson No. 20.

TO START A HORSE AT A WALK AND AT A TROT.

For the start at a walk, the man stations himself at the horse's near shoulder. He holds the lunge loosely in his left hand, and the off snaffle rein and the whip in his right hand by the brass circle, the point downwards. He must walk by the horse's side, taking the longest steps he can, and regulating the horse's pace by his own. If the horse walks too fast he must be checked by slightly feeling the off snaffle rein. The horse must be halted frequently by the action of the off rein, and each time he starts he must feel the rein, and touch the horse with the whip. Afterwards the man holds the bit reins crossed in the right hand, the halts must be repeated, and the action of the reins must be gradually diminished, so that, eventually, the horse shall stop at the least touch of them. The horse must be made to start by gently feeling the two reins and a light touch of the whip or the spur, taking great care that he never starts of his own accord. In this movement the horse should be much patted and encouraged at every start, and at every halt.

For the start at a trot, the man must proceed in the manner above described; only he will run gently by the horse's side, and will "click" his tongue at all the first starts. Afterwards, he will use the whip and the spur, making the trot so slow that he can walk by the horse's side.

After a few lessons, the man must make the horse drop the lower jaw, by the action of the reins, at each start and halt.

Lesson No. 21.

TO PRODUCE NOBLE CARRIAGE.

The man stations himself immediately in front of the horse, holding the lunge with his right hand, six inches from the horse's nose. He walks the horse, and makes him throw up his head from time to time, by slightly jerking the cavesson upwards. As soon as the horse carries his head and neck well of his own accord, care must be taken to caress him. When he carries his crest nobly, the man stations himself at the horse's shoulder, holding the lunge loosely in his left hand, and with the right hand the snaffle rein and the whip, round the brass band, the tip pointing downwards. If the horse lowers his head, the man must instantly make him lift it by smartly jerking up the near snaffle rein, and tapping him sharply with the whip on the shoulder. If the horse tries to drag the reins from the man's hand, he must jerk the near snaffle rein downwards, and strike the horse lightly on the shoulder. This must be repeated, until he ceases attempting to drag the reins away.

Lesson No. 22.

THE "REINING BACK" LESSON.

The man stations himself immediately fronting the horse's head; he holds the near bit rein in his right hand, and the off bit rein in his left hand. He puts the horse's head very low, he makes him "back" one step by the action of the near rein, and one step by the off rein, taking care that the lower jaw opens whenever the reins are felt. When the horse begins to back readily, the head must be raised gradually, and he must be made to back by the simultaneous action of both reins, taking care that the lower jaw opens at every step. In order that the horse may perform this movement well, the man's hand must be very light; and it is very important that the gradual raising of the head be very carefully attended to; the head being low at the beginning renders the execution of the movement very easy; in raising it gradually, the hocks and haunches become suppled, and it frees the action of the neck, without fatiguing the horse in the least.

Lesson No. 23.

TO TEACH A HORSE THE EFFECTS OF THE REINS ON STARTING AT A GALLOP.

The horse must be placed perfectly straight near the wall, on the "left," and the off fore leg must be placed a little to the rear of the near leg. The man holds the lunge in his left hand, six inches from the horse's nose. In his right hand he holds the off bit rein and the whip by the middle. He feels the off rein slightly, and taps the horse with the butt of the whip behind the girths, to make him start with the off fore foot, at the touch of the bit on the off side, and the whip on the near side. When the horse thoroughly understands the effect of the off rein and the touch of the butt of the whip on the near side, he must be placed on the "right," and the reverse means must be used.

Lesson No. 24.

TO "RASSEMBLER" A HORSE.

The horse must be placed perfectly straight on the "left," near a wall. The four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the tenth holes. The man stations himself at the horse's near shoulder, as near as he possibly can; he holds the lunge in his left hand, near the horse's nose, so as to be able to stop him in case he should start forward, or retreat. The man holds with his right hand the bit reins crossed, and the whip by the head, the tip pointing upwards; the man must then give several taps with the whip upon the croupe, accompanying each with a "click" of the tongue; and as soon as the horse moves all his legs readily, he must be stopped and encouraged. The man then recommences, and gradually increases the motion of the legs, making the horse drop his lower jaw, by the action of the bit reins. In this movement the horse must be placed with his croupe to the wall, so that he cannot go back. If he rears, the man must jerk the cavesson downwards; and if he kicks, must jerk it upwards, and at the same time correct him with the whip

till he ceases. The man must always place himself as close to the shoulder as possible, for if he remains a certain distance off, a horse might reach and injure him. As this movement is very important, it must be gone through with great care; and to obtain good results, too much must not be required from the horse at once.

The horse must be greatly caressed every time that he obeys. In this movement the man must have an exceedingly light hand, and the greatest good temper and patience must be exercised. As soon as the horse does not attempt to advance or retreat, the man must hold the lunge loosely, at a foot from the horse's nose, so as not to impede his champing the bit. At the third lesson, he must be exercised in this way by touching him with the whip behind the girths. At the fifth lesson, he must be "rassembled" by the butt-end of the whip and the spur alternately. In the case of a high-bred horse, the spur must be used very tenderly, and with great care.

Lesson No. 25.

THE "JUMPING" LESSON.

The "bar" must be placed on the ground. The horse is placed on the "right." The four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" are fixed in the first holes. The man holds the lunge loosely in his right hand, and the snaffle rein in his left hand; he walks the horse very slowly, and halts him at a half-yard's distance before the bar. He must lower the head so that the horse may see the bar fully, and must encourage him. The man will pass over the bar, jumping very slightly, and giving a "click" of the tongue, followed immediately by the word "up," and the horse must pass over at the same instant. The horse must be much encouraged after every jump. The bar must be raised six inches high. The man will lead the horse to half a yard from the bar, stop for a moment, will "click" the tongue, uttering the word "up." The same mode must be used at a trot. To make a horse jump readily, the greatest care must be taken to halt the horse half a yard from the bar; if he is made to jump further off, or nearer than this distance, he will certainly strike his legs against the bar, and

the pain he will experience will make him timid. When the horse has jumped well, the horse must be rewarded by patting him, and discontinuing the lesson immediately. If the horse does not jump at the same moment as the man, he must never be dragged forward with the lunge, to make him; the bar must be replaced on the ground, and the lesson began again, till he jumps freely. If he persists in refusing, at the end of ten minutes, he must be tapped on the breast with the point of the whip; if he hangs back, it must be gradually increased, until he moves forward. As soon as he has taken one step forward, the whip must be discontinued, and the horse much encouraged. He must be led again up to the bar, and by these means, he will be taught to jump over it. This persistence in refusing, however, is exceedingly rare, for I never had occasion to use these means but once.

At the second lesson, the four reins of the "Surfaix Cavalier" must be fixed in the sixth holes. At the third lesson, the four reins must be fixed in the tenth holes; and at the fourth lesson, the four reins must be fixed in the fifteenth holes.

Four lessons are always sufficient to teach a horse to jump perfectly well.

Lesson No. 26.

THE PROGRESSIVE "MOUNTING" LESSON FOR HORSES THAT HAVE NEVER BEEN MOUNTED.

The "Surfaix Cavalier" must be taken off. The man will ascertain that the curb is loose enough to admit three fingers being passed between it and the horse's chin, and also that it is perfectly flat. If the saddle has slipped forward, it must be put back, and the girths must be left sufficiently loose to admit of two hands being easily passed between them and the horse's body. A man holds the lunge in his left hand, near the horse's nose, and stations himself directly in front of his head. Another man stations himself at the horse's off shoulder, and holds the stirrup leather with his left hand, and at the moment the man who is about to mount puts his foot in the stirrup, the other leans upon the stirrup leather, so that the saddle cannot turn round, and pats the horse with his right hand. The man who holds the lunge puts his right hand before the horse's eyes, and at this moment the man who is about to mount, springs up with all the lightness and dexterity he can, and sits down very gently in the saddle. Once in it, he must not make the slightest

movement either of his body or his legs. The man who holds the lunge must speak encouragingly to the horse, and the man at the shoulder will pat and caress him. After a minute has elapsed, the man who holds the lunge will put his right hand before the horse's near eye, and the mounted man will dismount as softly and gently as possible. In mounting and dismounting, great care must be taken not to touch the horse with the toes.

After the mounting lesson, the horse must be walked three or four times round the Riding School, before he is taken back to the stable. At the second lesson, the mode above described must be used; but, in addition, the man will remain two or three minutes in the saddle, and the man who holds the lunge will take the snaffle rein in his right hand, and make the horse take five or six steps forward before the man dismounts. The horse must be much caressed.

At each successive lesson the girths must be very gradually tightened. At the third lesson the man will remain mounted for ten minutes, and the horse must be walked in the manner described in the second lesson.

At the fourth lesson, the man will mount in the manner described in the preceding lesson.

He holds one snaffle rein and one bit rein in his right hand, and one snaffle rein and one bit rein in his left hand; also the whip, by the butt end, and the point downwards, near the horse's shoulder. The man must walk the horse, halting him frequently, and starting him again by a light touch of the whip upon the shoulder, to accustom him to start forward freely upon the slightest motion. Each time the horse obeys, he must be much encouraged. The horse must not be mounted more than twenty minutes.

Lesson No. 27.

THE RIDING LESSON.

The man stations himself close to the horse's near shoulder, his face fronting the same way, his feet being parallel to each other, and three inches apart. The man draws his right foot gently back, half its length behind the left foot; he turns to the right, on the left heel, which brings him behind the shoulder with his face to the horse.

Being thus placed, the man takes the snaffle reins in the centre, with his right hand, placing the left little finger between them; the right hand draws the reins through the left hand, taking care they shall be equal, until the reins have a light action on the horse's mouth. The right hand throws the centre of the reins to the off side of the horse's neck, takes a lock of the mane, draws it through the middle of the left hand—taking care the hair shall not be pulled out at the moment of mounting, and the fingers are closed firmly, so that the reins and lock of the mane shall not slip. The man turns slightly more to the right, on the heels, the right hand holds the near stirrup and turns it towards him; the man lifts his left foot, and places the ball of it in the stirrup, the

Horse broken in.

right hand is placed on the cantle of the saddle, the left knee rests against the girths, the left heel being drawn back slightly, so as not to touch the horse's body with the toes. The man jumps two or three times slightly on the right foot, to bring himself close to the horse's body. He then springs upon the stirrup, bringing both feet to the same height, and rests the knees against the girths, the man's body being kept quite erect; he passes his right hand from the cantle to the pummel of the saddle, and supports the body while the right leg is passed over the croupe to the off side; the right knee closes on the saddle, and the body comes gently into it. The left hand quits the mane, and the right hand quits the pummel. The man places his bridle-hand, with the wrist slightly rounded and perpendicular, opposite the centre of the body as high as his belt, and the second knuckles at three inches distance from it; the fingers well shut, the wrists very supple; and drops the right arm perpendicularly, devoid of stiffness; he then puts his right foot into the off stirrup, without the help of hand or eye.

It is extremely useful to teach the men to vault into the saddle without the aid of the stirrup, and by the strength of the wrists alone.

To dismount, the man places his right

hand on the pummel of the saddle, to gain his first support; the second is on the stirrup. The right leg is brought clean over the croupe to the near side, the man supporting himself by the cantle and the stirrup, and preserving his equilibrium for a moment on the stirrup, the feet close together and level with each other, and the body is lowered till the right toe touches the ground. The right hand quits the cantle, the man faces to the left on the left heel, and stands to the front, close to the horse's shoulder, holding the snaffle reins in his right hand, six inches from the horse's nose.

During the four first lessons the man must mount and dismount several times successively in each lesson. When the man is mounted, he should always begin with the normal position, that is to say, seat himself in the middle of the saddle, quite upright, but without any stiffness; he closes his knees upon the saddle, and keeps his thighs as flat as possible, always without stiffness or muscular effort; the legs must fall naturally, and the knees must not be raised. At the end of a week, the stirrups must be used with the feet in them only to two inches and a half from the toes. When the man feels that he has gained his equilibrium, and is firm

in the saddle, he will place himself in a proper position, his elbows must be drawn in to his sides; he will lengthen the stirrups as much as he can without losing them, will draw back his knees, his heels must be one inch lower than the toes, almost parallel with the horse's side, that is to say, the toes are turned out in the slightest possible degree from the heel; for nothing is so ungraceful as a rider whose toes are turned out and feet placed home in the stirrup-irons; in which position the knees are far from the saddle, and the man sits exactly like a monkey on a dog's back, especially if his toes are pointed downwards and his heels in the air.

I shall now proceed to sum up the whole subject of "equitation" in a few words. It is only necessary for the man to pay great attention to the system of breaking-in the horse by the "Surfaix Cavalier," in order to gain a complete knowledge of all the means to be used when the horse is mounted; for all the effects are exactly the same; therefore, if they are repeated in the same manner, perfect success will be obtained. The work should always be commenced by making the horse light in hand—and to produce that result, he must be "rassembled"—

and afterwards, to ensure his answering to the action of the legs and reins without the least contraction.

When he answers to the reins, it must not be by a sudden sinking of the head upon the chest, for nothing can be worse, and more destructive of lightness in hand; in this case, the horse's head must be raised instantly, by a smart upward jerk of the snaffle reins on the upper jaw. The lowering of the head obtained by the action of the reins, should extend the whole length of the jaws, and when the horse is "placed" on the "right," or the "left," the flexion should be at the junction of the head with the neck, and not in the middle of the neck, as that would only be produced by a sudden pressing downwards.

When I speak of the action of the legs, my readers must not deceive themselves. I do not mean striking a horse with the spurs, for blows with the spurs are, to my mind, the worst means that can be used to break-in a horse; it gives him the habit of whisking his tail about like the sails of a windmill, and shirking his work, because he is always under nervous irritation; and to avoid the action of the bit upon his bars, at the moment he is touched by the

spurs, he anticipates the motion of the hand, and places his head in the rear of its action. What I mean, whilst speaking of the legs, is, that the horse ought to be broken so as to answer to the slightest pressure of the rider's calves, or the lower part of the leg, as the nature of the work requires. All horses that have been broken-in by the "Surfaix Cavalier" answer perfectly to the legs; therefore spurs should only be used as the means of correction, when a horse, knowing what is required of him, wilfully refuses to obey the action of the leg, which, however, rarely happens.

As almost all military exercises ought to be executed by the effects of the outer rein, or by the simultaneous action of both reins, the preparatory breaking-in of a horse should always be commenced by diagonal effects. It is necessary throughout the whole of the work—circles, demi voltes, voltes, half turns, and pirouettes on the haunches—that the action of the inner rein should be gradually diminished, and that of the outer rein progressively increased, until the horse answers perfectly to it. The only exceptions are the movements of the "Two Pistes," and the Gallop, which ought to be executed with diagonal effects.

In the equitation of the "High School," on

the contrary, all the movements are made by diagonal effects, with the exceptions of Pirouettes and demi-Pirouettes on the Haunches, which are made by the simultaneous action of the two reins, but making a little stronger use of the outer rein. For the work of the Two Pistes, the instructions must be followed which are indicated in the training by the "Surfaix Cavalier."

The "Inner rein and leg" are those on the side to which the horse is moving; for instance, when the horse turns in a circle to the right, the right rein and leg are the inner rein and leg, and consequently the left rein and left leg are the outer rein and leg. If the horse turns to the left, the reverse terms are applied. Whilst making these explanations, I will refer to the "Snaffle" and the "Bridoon." There are only two modes of bitting a horse—the first is with a bit and a snaffle attached to the same bridle; the second is with a bridoon, with branches or without them, no matter what shape When it is attached alone to a bridle, it ought always to be called a "Bridoon." Thus, as I do not admit any difference on account of the shape, inasmuch as the bit, notwithstanding its shape, is always called a "bit," so the rule ought to exist equally with respect to a "bridoon."

To start young horses in a gallop, for the

first time: the horse walking to the right, the rider will place the whip on the right, behind the girths, point downwards, in such a manner as to sustain the haunch at the moment when he strikes the horse with his left heel. He advances the hand a little in bearing slightly to the left, in order to make the bit felt a little to the right. He gives a touch with his left heel, and at the same time a "click" with his tongue, and the horse will immediately start off in a gallop. When he has gone a little distance, he should be halted, and caressed. The starts should be continued till the horse starts off readily. He should then be made to start off at once, by employing the same means.

In the work of the Pirouettes on the Haunches, the inner leg must be placed against the girths, and the outer leg ought to be placed behind the girths; and the flat of the spur should be applied hard enough to fix the haunch in such a manner as to obtain a pivot on that leg. In all works of Equitation, the rider ought to have great fixity and steadiness in the hand, body, seat, and legs; and it ought to be well observed, never to allow the horse to have the least will of his own. That a horse may be obedient, he must be stopped often, by closing the legs each time, and by diminishing gradually the effects of the hand. Thus, if a horse

seeks in the least to slacken his pace, he must be instantly put forward by a slight touch of the whip or spur. If he seeks to increase his speed too much of his own will, he must be halted instantly, and made to walk, and stopped very frequently, until he becomes calm.

In cases of difficulty, or obstinacy of the horse, or when it is necessary to jump any obstacles, the rider should support himself on his loins and press in the knees, keeping his heels very low, with which precautions he may be certain that the horse will not be able to throw him; the hand should be kept perfectly still, without loosening or pulling the reins, and the rider should be perfectly calm, for this is the surest means of governing his horse.

When a horse runs away, it is almost always the fault of his rider, and to be traced to his ignorance; this often occurs from drawing too much on the reins. If the horse is in the habit of getting a branch of the bit between his teeth, a bit should be procured of such a form that he will not be able to take hold of it with his teeth. Should the horse be a young one, inclined to run away from too much liveliness, it is the fault of the groom in not walking him in the morning with the bridoon and with the

horse clothing on. This practice should be invariably observed with a young horse; before riding him with a saddle and bridle, he should be walked two or three hours, according to his strength, and he should never be continued too long in a quick pace, as the longer such a pace is continued the more he becomes animated; it happens even that after a long sharp ride a young horse will bound, and if his rider allows him to get the upper hand in the least degree he immediately carries him off; this is a thing requiring the greatest attention with all horses, but especially young ones. One of the surest ways of making a young horse vicious, is to mount him with different riders; he may be perfectly broken-in on all points, but several riders are not likely to possess the same degree of instruction, nor all of them to practice the carefulness so indispensable with young horses.

When a rider is carried off by his horse, if he preserves his self-possession, there is little danger of accident; under such circumstances, there is but one course to be taken with the horse; it is to immediately relax the effect of the bit rein, and guide the horse with the snaffle rein; at the expiration of a few seconds, the horse can be stopped by a very slight action of the bit rein.

USEFUL INFORMATION CONCERNING HORSES, ESPECIALLY TO BREEDERS.

The good health and the strength of a horse depend entirely upon the manner in which he has been fed, and the work he has done, whilst in the breeder's hands. In order to increase a colt's powers and health, he should be fed with oats at as early an age as possible; and if his teeth cannot masticate them, the oats should be bruised. To bring his strength quickly into full development, he must be put to gentle, rational work, when very young; the fault being in general, that colts are left too long before they are "taken up," and that they are put to work beyond their strength. At first the labour should be light, and the food also; afterwards, they should both be increased in the same comparative proportions. The same reasoning applies to the forming a horse's disposition, which almost always depends upon the elementary instruction he has received. To make him trustful and relying upon man, and to avoid his becoming vicious, he should never be subjected to ill-treatment, but, from his earliest days, he must be accustomed to passive obedience. To make a horse entirely fearless, so as to move everywhere without the least timidity, all sorts of noises should be made in the stable, and immediately afterwards

he should be fed with oats. The Flag lesson should be given, he should be shown everything he is likely to meet with subsequently, and should be rewarded on being shown each successive object. The necks of all young horses loose in the fields become very stiff, from their constantly depressing their heads in order to eat the grass; therefore, previously to bringing them to market, owners will do well to subject them to the action of the "Surfaix Cavalier" one hour every day for a fortnight, which will round the neck, improve the general appearance, and give an excellent mouth.

A horse should never be struck on the head with the cavesson; nothing can be more dangerous, especially if he is young. He cannot avoid becoming ill. If the blow is heavy, inflammation of the brain ensues immediately, is communicated to the salivary glands, and from them to the throat.

For a lengthened period all lovers of horses in Great Britain have deeply regretted the brutal violence generally used towards these noble animals; and every one has cried out loudly for reform. It is frequently a mistake to attribute the ill-treatment of which horses are the victims to the bad temper or indifference of grooms and coachmen; the absence of breaking-in and instruction furnishes the true reason why force

is used. If the horse has not been suppled, the natural stiffness of his limbs renders it impossible for him to execute the required movements; and if he has not been instructed, he cannot understand what is demanded of him; therefore, violence becomes inevitable. If good grooms and coachmen be desirable, the men must be instructed and the horses broken-in, and thus, the wished-for reform will be accomplished. The groom will not require from the horse that which he cannot perform, and the horse being both physically and morally in a condition to execute and understand what is demanded, will not refuse; and then the grooms will be convinced by experience that it is unnecessary to have recourse to brutal force, and instead of giving blows with whips and pitckforks, they will caress their horses.

A very large number of horses have the itch in their skin—on the loins, the croupe, and the tail. When this has occurred, I have often seen the horses rubbed with thorns, or a stick has been tied in such a manner that the neck could not be turned; and frequently the stable men strike them with the forks, when the poor animals rub themselves. All this ill treatment is the more unjust, as the itch is caused by the fault of those who have the care of the horses. When a horse is in this state, he should be brushed until no

obstruction or dirt remains below the hair; he should then be well washed and scrubbed with warm water and black soap; when the skin and the hair are perfectly clean, he must be dried with white cloths; then he must be well rubbed over with a clean brush, until he is quite dry; two blankets should be put on him, to prevent his catching cold, and an hour afterwards the tail should be cleaned; a sponge saturated with hot water should be used; the hair should be carefully put aside, and the skin well washed with the following lotion, which it is always preferable to make for one-self:—An ordinary bottle of clear water must be taken, and two tea-spoonsful of extract of Saturnium (which is to be found at every chemist's) should be mixed in it; and, to prevent the itch spreading to other portions of the horse's body, it must be well brushed, not merely on the surface of the hair, but on the skin itself. This treatment should be repeated twice a day for a week. After that time, it will be enough to wash it four times a week with a lotion half the strength of the above. The horse's tail, by these means, will soon be brought into good condition; in fact, this treatment is infallible. The horse must not be rubbed down with wisps of hay under any circumstances whatever, for the use of hay in rubbing down infallibly results, at the expiration of a little time, in creating

diseases of the skin, and the itch. Hay always contains a great quantity of dust, and often very fine sand, both of which create these skin diseases; thus, it happens that the more the horse is dressed on the croupe, and the insertion of the tail, in the vain hope of thoroughly cleaning it, the more the dust and sand are driven into the skin, and the disease is increased instead of being cured. As straw is always threshed before it is used for horses, it holds very little dust; and it is, therefore, much preferable to employ it; but, nevertheless, even when the horse has been rubbed with wisps of straw, he should be well dressed with a brush, so that not the slightest particle of dust shall remain on his skin.

When a horse has been hurt on the back, withers, or legs, nothing can be more easy than quickly healing the wounds. It is merely necessary to use, four times a day, a lotion compounded in the following manner:—an ordinary bottle full of water, one sixteenth part of Harnicat, and one tea-spoonful of extract of Saturnium. Care must be taken that the linen with which the lotion is used is perfectly clean, and the wounds should not be rubbed with the linen, but the lotion should be gently squeezed over them.

THE END.

I have this instant received a letter from General the Hon. HENRY MURRAY, C.B. I feel convinced that my readers will not only have great pleasure in perusing it, but will appreciate the importance of the good opinion of so highly distinguished an officer, who, during the whole of his honourable career, has given so many proofs of his profound knowledge of everything relating to horses, and the science of equitation.

(EXTRACT)

"*May 6th*, 1856.

"General MURRAY presents his compliments to Madame ISABELLE, and thanks her for her book. He has read, with much satisfaction, her very clear explanation of her ingenious, and (as he has himself seen) successful system."

By the excellence of the "Surfaix Cavalier," and the Long Spur Whip, and also by the intimate combination of the means progressively employed by me, and described in this work, I have achieved my numerous successes in the Cavalry Schools of St. Petersburgh, Paris, and Maidstone, and in a course of public breaking-in in Vienna and in London.

I feel persuaded, that when the good effects of the "Surfaix Cavalier" shall be generally known, no stable throughout the kingdom will be without one.

The patent "Surfaix Cavalier" is manufactured at Mr. Shipley's, 181, Regent Street, where may also be had the patent Breaking-in Whip, the Cavesson, and the Bits used by me for every description of horse.

LONDON:
Printed by W. J. Goldbourn, 6, Princes Street, Leicester Square.